

BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

For the Year ended 31st December,

1963



1964

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CONTENTS.

	Page
STAFF	3
REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	3
INTRODUCTORY LETTER	4
SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS	7
EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS	7
Live Births	7
Still Births	7
Deaths	8
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	9
Infant Mortality	9
Glamorgan (Administrative County)—Vital Statistics, 1963	10A
Classification of Deaths (Registrar General)	11
PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES	12
Poliomyelitis Vaccination	12
Tuberculosis—B.C.G. Vaccination	13
Other Vaccinations	13
Smallpox Vaccination	13
TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS	14
GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES	15
Domiciliary Midwifery Service	15
Domiciliary Nursing Service	15
Medical Comforts	15
Home Help Services	16
Clinic Services	16
Health Visitors	16
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948	17
HOUSING	17
WATER SUPPLIES	18
PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS	20
GENERAL INFORMATION	20
Education	20
Children's Department	21
Juvenile Court	21
Welfare Services (Part III Accommodation)	21
Employment of Disabled Persons	22
Industrial Medical Services—Steel Company of Wales	22
Atmospheric Pollution	23
British Hydrocarbon Chemicals Ltd.	24
REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	26
Introductory Letter	26
General Inspection of District, Number and Classification	28
Housing Inspections (houses unfit, houses rendered fit)	29
Number of nuisances discovered and notices served	30
Record of work done following service of notices	30
Meat and other food inspections	31
Diseased and unsound meat condemned at the Abattoir	32
Unsound and unwholesome food condemned within the borough	34
Food submitted for analysis (quality, description and labelling)	35
Adulterated Samples	36
Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulation 1925/53	37
Sale of Milk Regulations	37
Sampling of designated milks	38
Bacteriological sampling of ice-cream	39
Industrial catering and automatic vending of food	39
Ice-cream	40
Food Hygiene	41
Public Houses	41
Beach Activities in Relation to Food	43
Registered Food Premises	44
Water Samples	44
Slaughtering Facilities within the Borough	45
Meat Inspection at the Abattoir	46
Meat Inspection Regulations 1963	46
Annual Slaughterhouse Returns	47
Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution—Data	49
Daily Recordings of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide	50
Records of Deposited Pollution of Dust and Soot	51
Sulphur Pollution Records	53
Port Talbot Rainfall	55
Port Talbot Sunshine	56
Atmospheric Pollution	57
Alkali Works	57
Smoke Control Areas	59
New Furnaces Notification	60
Factories	61
Refuse Disposal	61
Rodent Control	62
Noise Abatement	64
Insect Pests	64
Common Lodging Houses	65
Offensive Trades	65
Inspection of Cinemas	65
Rent Act 1957	65
Inspection of Council Houses	66
Land Charges Act 1935	66
Trainee Public Health Inspectors	66
The Housing (Management of Houses in Multiple Occupation) Regulations 1962	66
By-Laws as to Hairdressers and Barbers	68
Slum Clearance Activities	68
Proceedings in Magistrates Court	71

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Chief Public Health Inspector.

L. J. CARTER (C.S.I.B., as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector). Fellow Association of Public Health Inspectors.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.

I. G. HEYCOCK (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspectors. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

Senior District Public Health Inspector.

L. MORGAN (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector, also Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

Additional Public Health Inspectors.

W. CORNELIUS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector, also Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

D. H. W. GRIFFITHS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

K. D. RATTENBURY (C.P.H.I.E.B. as Public Health Inspector and D.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector. Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

Student Public Health Inspectors.

R. WATKINS.

P. R. THOMAS.

K. SNOOK (appointed 26th September, 1963).

Drain Tester and Disinfector.

L. GEORGE.

Rodent Operators.

D. MAINWARING. T. D. REES.

Shorthand Typists.

Miss L. WILLIAMS (Now Mrs. L. HEYCOCK, Resigned 30/8/63).

Miss S. A. KENT (Now Mrs. S. A. GEORGE).

Miss M. DAVIES (appointed 30th September, 1963).

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1963

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of
Port Talbot.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with the requirements of Circular 1/64 (Wales) from the Welsh Board of Health, I submit for your acceptance the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1963.

As in previous years, this report is divided into two sections, the first giving details and particulars of general statistical information relating to the health and welfare of the Community which I have had the pleasure in preparing and the second a detailed report of the work of the Public Health Inspectorate which has been kindly prepared by Mr. L. J. Carter, your Chief Public Health Inspector.

The general health of the Community has continued to be of a high standard. The birth rate continues to be high, some 65% of all live births occurring in hospitals, the bulk at Neath General Hospital whilst a small proportion were delivered at Bridgend General Hospital and at other hospitals. The crude birth rate for the borough, although not quite as high this year, still continues to be above the national average.

The number of deaths were a little more than half of the number of births, in other words the population of the borough continues to increase.

It is with a sense of regret that I have to report 16 neonatal deaths during the period under review, amongst these were a number of congenital abnormalities. At the present time there is a special enquiry being undertaken nationally and at local level into the incidence of congenital abnormalities amongst our infant population. I am pleased to be able to report once again that there were no maternal deaths during the period under review.

The number of deaths due to cancer has dropped slightly during 1963 as compared with the figure for 1962 but I feel that I should draw attention to the fact that in spite of this the number of deaths

due to cancer of the lung have gone up considerably. Eighteen males and one female died from lung cancer. During the period under review considerable publicity was given to the relationship between the smoking of cigarettes and the incidence of cancer of the lung but in spite of the very positive warnings given, there does not appear to be any lessening in the habit of cigarette smoking.

Last year I reported on the great smallpox visitation and in my Annual Report I gave a total number of persons known to be vaccinated against smallpox. These amounted to 42,656 and it is with a sense of serious regret that I have to record only 75 vaccinations carried out during 1963.

The incidence of tuberculosis has continued to exercise our minds during the year and I have been in constant and close communication with my friends the local Chest Physicians. During the year some 35 new names were added to my Tuberculosis Register but I am glad to be able to say that 49 names were removed and of these 29 were reported as recovered.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Services of the County Council were improved by the opening of the new Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic in Baglan. As members will recall, clinic facilities at Baglan had been provided in the downstairs rooms of a Council House also occupied by the Nurse/Midwife for the area. The opening of this new clinic has made it possible for the Local Health Authorities functions to be enlarged and expanded and Ante-Natal, Infant Welfare, Refraction and Health Education clinics are now being held on these premises. An interesting development in this clinic is the establishment of surgery sessions by three groups of General Practitioners and these sessions are being well received by the population.

The Local Health Authority has also extended its provisions to a Night Sitter In Service and a Chiropody Service, the former being devoted to the night needs of critically ill patients where no near relatives or neighbours are available and able to give this care. It is also intended to give assistance to relieve relatives who may be required to attend to a sick person at night for a lengthy period.

The Chiropody Service is at the present time devoting itself to the care of Old Age Pensioners, Handicapped Persons, Blind Persons and Expectant Mothers.

During 1963 the Council completed a hundred houses, whilst other bodies or persons built a total of ninety.

As will be seen from the body of the report, the water supplies to the borough were greatly augmented by the introduction of the Neath Abstraction Scheme. This is capable of producing some 2½ million gallons of water per day and further particulars are given in the body of the report.

Of very considerable interest, 1963 saw the commissioning of a new industrial plant to the west of the Sandfields Housing Estate, in the form of the British Hydrocarbon Chemicals Ltd. In association with this plant, certain ancillary installations are also being brought into commission. There were certain teething problems which gave your officers certain cause for anxiety for a while but I am glad to state that the management were able to take prompt and appropriate action. The Works General Manager, Mr. G. Peters, has kindly prepared a brief and interesting report which I have pleasure in incorporating under Industrial Services in the body of this report.

In concluding these introductory remarks I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the help and guidance which members of Council and in particular the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee have given to me and the department during the whole of the period under review. I would also like to express my thanks to all my colleagues on the staff of the Council for their support and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. J. WILLIAMS,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Dept.,
Park House,
Theodore Road,
Port Talbot.

Port Talbot 2137/8.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR, 1963.

Area of Borough (inclusive of foreshore)	23,444 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimated mid-year, 1963)	51,510
Rateable value at 31st March, 1963	£1,646,322
Product of Penny Rate for year ended 31st March, 1963	£6,753
Rainfall in inches at Town Centre	39.77
Number of Houses erected in 1963	190
(i) By Local Authority	100
(ii) By other Bodies or Persons	90
Number of houses connected to Corporation Mains Water Supply	15,942
Number of houses supplied from standpipes	—
Average daily consumption of water per person in gallons	30.4

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.

	Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	466	.....	459	..... 925
Illegitimate	21	.....	21	..... 42
Total number of live births	487	.....	480	..... 967

	Crude	Adjusted
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	18.77	..... 18.58
Live birth rate for England and Wales ...	18.20 —
Illegitimate Live Births. Per cent of total Live Births		4.34

Still Births.

	Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	13	.....	6	..... 19
Illegitimate .....	—	.....	1	..... 1
Total number of stillbirths	13	.....	7	..... 20

Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births	20.26
Total Live and Still Births	987

The following table is of interest :—

Number of live births at home in the Borough	336
Number of live births (Port Talbot mothers) at Neath General Hospital	513
Number of live births (Port Talbot mothers) at Bridgend General and other hospitals	118

Of all live births 65% occurred in hospital. In 1962 the percentage of births in hospital was 63 and in 1961, 68.

Comparison of Crude Birth Rate with National Rate.

The Crude Birth Rate for the Borough continues to be higher than the national figure as can be seen from the following chart. This position has maintained itself consistently for the past ten years.

Year	Live Births	Crude Rate per 1,000	Crude Rate (England & Wales)
1954	834	18.19	15.2
1955	877	18.79	15.0
1956	883	18.74	15.6
1957	899	18.82	16.1
1958	1,002	20.71	16.4
1959	934	19.19	16.5
1960	1,034	21.17	17.1
1961	911	18.21	17.4
1962	977	19.10	18.2
1963	967	18.77	18.2

Applications for Non-Emergency Hospital Beds.

Patients due to be confined during	1961.		1962.		1963.	
	APPLICATIONS Received. Refused.		APPLICATIONS Received. Refused.		APPLICATIONS Received. Refused.	
January	59	3	69	13	70	15
February	67	11	56	0	70	13
March	64	8	77	19	74	18
April	64	8	69	12	75	16
May	64	8	75	19	77	19
June	57	1	76	20	70	15
July	53	0	72	16	73	14
August	56	0	61	5	65	7
September	68	12	78	21	73	16
October	65	9	47	0	63	8
November	51	0	45	0	60	5
December	54	0	59	3	56	1

Deaths.

Deaths from all causes in the area (Male 303 Female 203)	506
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population Crude, 9.82 Adjusted	13.55
Death rate for England and Wales Crude	12.20

The Crude death rate for the past nine years is summarised below :—

1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
9.78	10.18	11.50	10.07	10.89	10.57	10.52	10.05	9.97

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during 1963.

Infant Mortality.

Neonatal deaths—16. Neonatal death rate per 1,000 live births—16.55.

Cause of death	One day— One week	One week— One month—
Broncho Pneumonia	—	1
Occipital Meningo Encephalocele	—	1
Encephalocele	1	—
Intracranial Haemorrhage	—	1
Prematurity	8	—
Ventricular septal defect, Pulmonary Atelectasis	1	—
Premature Subarachnoid Haemorrhage	1	—
Asphyxia. Delayed 2nd Stage of Labour	1	—
Peritonitis. Operation for imperfect arms	—	1
	<u>12</u>	<u>4</u>

Death during one month to one year of age—6.

Acute Bronchitis & Broncho Pneumonia	1
Broncho pneumonia & congestive heart failure—Fibrocytic Disease of Pancreas	1
Broncho Pneumonia	2
Dehydration. Gastroenteritis	1
Pneumococcal Meningitis	1

For comparison purposes I append below the Infant Mortality rate for the Borough for the last ten years :—

1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
22.75	20.47	20.86	36.75	26.95	37.92	38.93	28.31	34.21	22.78

Infant Mortality Rates.

Total infant deaths (under 1 year)	22
Rate per 1,000 total live births	22.75
Legitimate infant deaths	21
Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	22.7
Illegitimate infant deaths	1
Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	23.8

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.

Total neo-natal deaths (under 4 weeks)	16
Rate per 1,000 total live births	16.55

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.

Total neo-natal deaths (under 1 week)	12
Rate per 1,000 total live births	12.41

Perinatal Mortality Rate.

Total still-births and deaths under 1 week (combined)	32
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	32.42

Maternal Mortality (including Abortion).

Number of deaths	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	0

Death (all Ages).

The main causes of death in the Borough during 1963 were:—

1. Cardiovascular conditions	180
2. Cancers of various kinds	78
3. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	62
4. Respiratory diseases (excluding Tuberculosis and Cancer)	64
5. Accidents	21

There were 19 deaths due to cancer of the lung, 18 amongst males and 1 amongst females.

This compares with:— 12 deaths (10 males, 2 females) in 1962.

Of the 180 deaths from cardiovascular conditions, 127 were attributed to coronary disease. 85 men and 42 women died of coronary disease. In the previous year there were 92 deaths from coronary disease, 61 being males and 31 being females.

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1963

	Estimated Population 1963	Number of Births	BIRTHS		Number of Deaths	DEATHS		INFANT Deaths under 1 Year	MORTALITY Rate per 1,000 Live Births	NEO-NATAL MORTALITY	
			Rate per 1,000 Population			Rate per 1,000 Population				Deaths under 4 weeks	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
			Crude	Adjusted		Crude	Adjusted				
England & Wales		856,276	18.20	—	572,484	12.20	—	17,870	20.90	—	—
Administrative County	752,250	13,258	17.62	17.97	9,519	12.65	14.55	364	27.46	259	19.54
Urban Districts	526,190	9,188	17.46	17.98	6,799	12.92	14.99	256	27.86	177	19.26
Rural Districts	226,060	4,070	18.00	18.18	2,720	12.03	13.47	108	26.54	82	20.15
HEALTH DIVISION.											
CONSTITUENT DISTRICTS.											
Aberdare and Mountain Ash—											
Aberdare Urban	39,000	605	15.51	16.91	661	16.95	17.63	19	31.40	13	21.49
Mountain Ash Urban	29,540	518	17.54	17.54	416	14.08	17.04	15	28.96	9	17.37
Caerphilly and Gelligaer—											
Caerphilly Urban	36,560	689	18.85	18.47	415	11.35	14.76	18	26.12	13	18.86
Gelligaer Urban	35,030	675	19.27	19.27	425	12.13	15.77	26	38.52	16	23.70
Mid-Glamorgan—											
Bridgend Urban	15,130	247	16.33	16.82	140	9.25	10.18	5	20.24	4	16.19
Maesteg Urban	21,790	388	17.81	18.52	271	12.44	15.43	10	25.77	8	20.62
Ogmore & Garw Urban	21,010	413	19.66	20.25	266	12.66	15.70	12	29.06	7	16.95
Porthcawl Urban	11,520	185	16.06	18.47	178	15.45	12.98	8	43.24	7	37.84
Penybont Rural	43,120	916	21.24	20.39	549	12.73	12.86	20	21.83	16	17.47
Neath and District—											
Neath M.B.	30,630	500	16.32	16.97	411	13.42	14.36	15	30.00	9	18.00
Neath Rural	40,840	651	15.94	16.58	497	12.17	14.97	27	41.47	20	30.72
Pontypridd and Llantrisant—											
Llantrisant Rural	27,300	528	19.34	18.37	258	9.45	12.29	16	30.30	14	26.52
Pontypridd Urban	35,400	625	17.66	18.01	495	13.98	14.12	18	28.80	14	22.40
Port Talbot and Glyncoirwg—											
Glyncoirwg Urban	9,440	212	22.46	21.79	112	11.86	18.03	11	51.89	5	23.58
Port Talbot M.B.	51,510	967	18.77	18.58	506	9.82	13.55	22	22.75	16	16.55
South East Glamorgan—											
Barry M.B.	42,240	817	19.34	19.92	482	11.41	12.78	15	18.36	11	13.46
Cardiff Rural	50,880	926	18.20	17.65	614	12.07	11.35	18	19.44	12	12.96
Cowbridge M.B.	1,110	28	25.22	25.47	13	11.71	12.18	—	—	—	—
Cowbridge Rural	20,180	388	19.23	20.58	172	8.52	14.06	9	23.20	6	15.46
Penarth Urban	20,890	331	15.84	17.11	289	13.83	13.14	2	6.04	2	6.04
West Glamorgan—											
Gower Rural	13,080	217	16.59	18.08	175	13.38	13.38	7	32.26	6	27.65
Llwchwr Urban	25,290	348	13.76	14.72	369	14.59	16.05	15	43.10	11	31.61
Pontardawe Rural	30,660	444	14.48	16.36	455	14.84	15.73	11	24.77	8	18.02
Rhondda—											
Rhondda M.B.	100,100	1,640	16.38	16.87	1,350	13.49	15.51	45	27.44	32	19.51

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS DURING 1963

as recorded by the Registrar General.

	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	—
2 Tuberculosis, other	—	—
3 Syphilitic disease	1	—
4 Diphtheria	—	—
5 Whooping Cough	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections	—	—
7 Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
8 Measles	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—
10 Cancer of Stomach	6	7
11 Cancer of lung	18	1
12 Cancer of breast	—	4
13 Cancer of uterus	—	4
14 Other forms of cancer	25	13
15 Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	1
16 Diabetes	1	3
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system	26	36
18 Coronary Disease, angina	85	42
19 Hypertension with heart disease	5	3
20 Other heart disease	20	25
21 Other circulatory disease	12	8
22 Influenza	—	1
23 Pneumonia	10	16
24 Bronchitis	25	5
25 Other diseases of respiratory system	5	2
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	3
28 Nephritis and nephrosis	3	2
29 Hyperplasia of prostate	8	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31 Congenital malformations	5	3
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases	20	18
33 Motor vehicle accidents	2	1
34 All other accidents	14	4
35 Suicide	5	—
36 Homicide and operations of war	—	—

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the incidence of infectious disease during 1963 as compared with 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961 and 1962.

Disease	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Scarlet Fever	140	54	19	5	3	7
Whooping Cough	9	5	213	12	1	27
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	3	—
Measles	115	702	197	1210	674	593
Meningococcal Infection	3	1	—	1	1	1
Dysentery	—	—	11	9	3	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	3	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid B.	—	—	—	—	1	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	3	—	5	1	—	2
Malaria	—	—	—	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis	1	—	1	6	—	—
Food Poisoning	2	4	4	1	3	—
Undulant Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis (infectious)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	3	2	1	3

Distribution by Wards.

	Margam West	Margam Central	Margam North	Aberavon South	Aberavon North	Aberavon East	Aberavon West	Cwmavon	TOTALS
Scarlet Fever	1	1	—	—	2	—	3	—	7
Whooping Cough	—	2	—	4	—	2	19	—	27
Measles	55	108	50	48	58	73	138	63	593
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	1	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	6
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	3
Tuberculosis—									
Pulmonary	1	—	2	5	2	3	10	2	25
Non-Pulmonary	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

During 1963, 901 persons completed their primary immunisation against poliomyelitis. 894 of these were given oral vaccine and the other seven were immunised with Salk vaccine.

In addition reinforcing (booster) doses were given to 1250 persons during the year.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases of Poliomyelitis were notified during 1963.

Tuberculosis—B.C.G. Vaccination.

This valuable form of protection against tuberculosis was made available to a further age group of school leavers, this being the ninth year of the scheme.

The parents of 781 children agreed to the procedure and the children were given the preliminary skin test. Of this number 592 were found to need vaccination of which 581 submitted to and were duly vaccinated.

Those children who gave a positive reaction to the skin test were invited to the Chest Clinic where they were duly X-rayed. 9 children were invited back for repeat X-ray after a period with satisfactory results.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the period under review 990 children received their primary course of injections, 727 of these being born in 1962 and 1963. Some 201 older children were given their booster injections.

Whooping Cough.

27 children were notified as suffering from Whooping Cough during 1963. The number given protective injections amounted to 819.

Smallpox Vaccination.

	No. Vaccinated
Under 1 year	20
1 year	42
2—4 years	5
5—14 years	2
15 years or over	6
TOTAL	<hr/> 75 <hr/>

Tuberculosis.

I append below particulars of the number of cases on the tuberculosis register at the beginning and at the end of the year, together with details of the notifications broken down into the various age groups.

Number of Cases on Register on 1st January, 1963—401.

	Males	Females
Pulmonary	169	180
Non-Pulmonary	20	32
Total	189	212

Number of cases on Register on 31st December, 1963—387.

	Males	Females
Pulmonary	168	168
Non-Pulmonary	20	31
Total	188	199

Number of New Notifications	26
No. of In-Transfers	8
Total	34
Number restored to Register	1
Total	35

Number left district	12
Number died	8
Number recovered	29
Number removed from Register — Diagnosis not confirmed	—
Unable to trace Patient	—
Total	49

New Cases during 1963 (formally notified):—

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—
Over 1 year and under 5 years	—	—	—	—
Over 5 years and under 10 years	—	—	—	—
Over 10 years and under 15 years	1	—	—	—
Over 15 years and under 20 years	3	—	—	—
Over 20 years and under 25 years	1	2	—	—
Over 25 years and under 35 years	2	3	1	—
Over 35 years and under 45 years	3	—	—	—
Over 45 years and under 55 years	4	1	—	—
Over 55 years and under 65 years	1	1	—	—
Over 65 years	2	1	—	—
Totals	17	8	1	—

Cases not formally notified

(taken from local Registrar's returns):—

	Pulmonary
	M.
Over 65 years	1 (died)

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT.

General Provision of Health Services.

Whilst the Borough Council is primarily concerned with the sanitary circumstances in the area, it also has an indirect interest in the services provided by the County Council as Local Health Authority, and in order that the Borough Council may have a say in the day to day running and administration of the Local Health Authority Services, the Borough is represented on the local Divisional Health Committee.

It has been my practice to provide for the information of the Borough Council, certain statistical details of the work carried out within the area of the Port Talbot and Glyncoirwg Health Division and I append below details of certain of the services being provided.

Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

Total domiciliary confinements	451
Doctor present	42

Domiciliary Nursing Service.

Total number of patients	1,374
Types of cases :	
Medical or Surgical	1,037
Tuberculous	42
Total number of visits	37,589

Medical Comforts.

Total Issues	466
Greatest demand:	
Air Rings	55
Bed Pans	83
Bed Rests	53
Rubber Sheets	76
Male Urinals	30
Invalid Chairs	39

Home Help Service.

Total Part-Time and Casual Helps	72
Types of cases attended:	
Aged and Infirm	260
Chronic Sick & Tuberculosis	65
Mentally disordered	1
Maternity	6
Others	19
<hr/>	
Total	351

Costs Charged :

	No.		%
Full Cost	25	.....	7
Part Cost	26	.....	7
Free	300	.....	86

Clinic Services.

Ante-Natal and Post Natal Clinics.

Number of Women who attended Ante-Natal Clinics	1,527
Number of Women who attended past Natal Clinics	98

Infant Welfare Clinics.

Number of Children born in 1963 who attended Infant Welfare Clinics	1,045
Number of Children born in 1962 who attended Infant Welfare Clinics	892
Number of Children born in 1958/61 who attended Infant Welfare Clinics	943
<hr/>	
Total	2,880

Health Visitors.

Visits to Children born in 1963	1,150
Visits to Children born in 1962	1,165
Visits to Children born in 1958/61	3,368
Visits to Tuberculous households	457
Other Visits	302
<hr/>	
Total	6,442

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Removal of Persons in need of Care and Attention.

During 1963 four cases of persons who were thought to be in need of care and attention were brought to my attention by various agencies but I am glad to be able to report that it was possible by persuasion to arrange for the voluntary admission of three of these cases and by intensive case work at home it became possible to improve the circumstances of the remaining case so that it did not become necessary to invoke the provisions of the National Assistance Act.

HOUSING.

During 1963, 190 permanent houses were completed of which 100 were built by the Council and 90 by other bodies or persons.

In order that easy comparison may be made I give below the figures for the past ten years in tabulated form.

Year.	Houses Completed by Local Authority.	Houses Completed by others.	Total
1963	100	90	190
1962	245	98	343
1961	223	116	339
1960	210	103	313
1959	256	63	319
1958	156	35	191
1957	454	48	502
1956	287	66	353
1955	420	63	483
1954	642	55	697

The waiting list for re-housing by the Local Authority remains high. At the end of 1963 the Housing Manager states that 1,420 names remained on his file.

This compares with the waiting list for previous years thus:—

December 31st, 1962	1,520
" " 1961	1,700
" " 1960	1,760
" " 1959	1,550
" " 1958	1,865
" " 1957	1,695
" " 1956	1,834
" " 1955	1,699
" " 1954	1,540
" " 1953	1,650
" " 1952	1,340
" " 1951	1,732

I give below a table that gives an indication of some of the special categories of applicants where re-housing was effected during the period under review.

Families suffering from or exposed to Tuberculosis	7
Families from Condemned Houses	29
Families from overcrowded houses	6
Key Workers in Industry	39
Families from houses required for Road Development (Port Talbot By-Pass)	5

Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding.

No cases of statutory overcrowding within the meaning of the Act were brought to the notice of the Department during the period under review.

WATER SUPPLIES.

During the first few weeks of the period under review, the very severe frost and snow and difficult weather conditions created serious problems and difficulties for the Water Department. In many instances water services became frozen and the department was called upon to erect stand pipes and provide water by other than the normal means.

The skill and ingenuity of the Borough Engineer's Water Department was sorely taxed and an interesting and novel way of defrosting services was brought into use. It appears that the passage of a very heavy electrical current obtainable from an electric welding apparatus can produce sufficient heat in service pipes to thaw them sufficiently for water service to be restored. This method was in great demand, indeed at certain periods it became necessary for the department to control the service to cases of hardship, sickness and infirmity.

The foresight of the Water Department in negotiating for and installing a Water Abstraction Plant from the River Neath at Aberdulais was well rewarded during this time when it was possible to maintain adequate pressures in all areas and during this year the worry and anxiety of having to disconnect and turn off water supplies during periods of drought was obviated for the first time in many years. We experienced certain growing pains with the Neath Abstraction Plant but at the time of preparation of this report I am glad to be able to say that a very large proportion of these problems have been satisfactorily resolved.

I summarise below a list of the sources of water brought into use during 1963.

(a) Permanent Supplies

Cwmwernderi	—	50,000,000	galls/capacity.	
Cwmgwineu	—	138,000	galls/capacity.	
Ynysygwas	—	6,000,000	galls/capacity.	
Cwm Varteg	—	30,000	galls/capacity.	} Bryn area only.
Parc-y-Bryn	—	1,700	galls/capacity.	
Cwmwernderi Intake	—	2,000	galls/capacity.	
Neath R.D.C.	—	} Abstraction volume governed by Rate of Pumping.		
Cwm Philip Abstraction	—			
Mid-Glamorgan Water Board	—			
River Neath Abstraction	—			

(b) Temporary Auxiliary Supplies available to the Authority.

Glenhafod Colliery.
Pwlllyglaw.
Borehole.
Ffrwdwyllt.

The temporary supplies were brought into supply as follows:—

Glanhafod :	not used				
Pwlllyglaw :	1	1	63	—	15 5 63
	18	5	63	—	25 6 63
	27	6	63	—	15 7 63
	17	7	63	—	27 7 63
	1	8	63	—	11 9 63
	23	9	63	—	27 9 63
Borehole :	13	1	63	—	16 3 63
	4	6	63	—	29 6 63
Ffrwdwyllt	not used				

The average daily intake (in gallons) into the mains was as follows:—

Cwmwernderi	—	563,000
Cwmgwineu	—	603,000
Ynysygwas	—	785,000
Pwlllyglaw	—	490,000 into Ynysygwas Reserve.
Glenhafod		Nil.
Ffrwdwyllt		Nil.
Borehole	—	60,000 into Cwmwernderi Intake.

The Borough Engineer informs me that the average daily supply for industry amounts to 1,170,000 gallons.

Regular sampling for bacteriological and chemical purity is undertaken by the department and details of the samples taken are given by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Month	Rainfall in inches Town Centre	State of Reservoirs		Restriction Districts (if any)
		Cwmwernderi	Ynysygwas	
January	0.50	13'—1"	LEVEL	°
February	1.97	14'—4"	2'—6"	†
March	5.17	7'—10"	2'—8"	—
April	3.98	0'—3"	0'—9"	—
May	2.04	LEVEL	1'—1"	—
June	2.62	3'—4"	2'—5"	—
July	2.31	FULL	2'—0"	—
August	5.06	0'—4"	1'—0"	—
September	2.51	FULL	0'—10"	—
October	2.35	FULL	0'—3"	—
November	9.73	FULL	FULL	—
December	1.53	FULL	1'—1"	—
TOTAL	39.77			

° General Restrictions.

† Notices circulated to all concerned about reduced pressure.

Public Baths Attendances, 1963.

Number of Admission tickets issued	20,474
Number of Club Members	2,997
Number of Hot Baths supplied	1,055
Number of Towels hired	872
Number of School Classes which attended	850
Number of Police who attended	—

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Education.

The following information has been provided by Mr. Eben Jones, the Divisional Education Officer :—

1. Average number of pupils attending primary and secondary schools in the Borough during 1963 9,829
2. Daily average number of pupils receiving school meals during 1963 2,999
3. Daily average number of pupils receiving milk in school during 1963 7,229

Children's Department.

Miss Beti Jones, the Glamorgan County Council Children's Officer has kindly supplied the following details :—

1. Number of children admitted to Children's Homes in 1963	18
2. Number of children boarded out	15
3. Number of children admitted to Approved Schools in 1963	3

Juvenile Court.

Mr. P. H. R. Thomas, the Clerk to the Court, states that 299 children between the ages of eight and seventeen years were brought before the Juvenile Court during 1963.

Welfare Services. Part III—Accommodation.

Thirteen males and eight females from Port Talbot were admitted to County Council Hostels during 1963.

HOME	Male.	Female.
"Mor-Awelon", Port Talbot	6	7
"Danybryn", Pontardawe	4	—
"Hyfrydol", Maesteg	1	—
"Gellygron," Pontardawe	1	—
"The Hollies", Pontardulais	1	—
"Danygraig", Porthcawl	—	1
	<hr/> 13	<hr/> 8

Mr. J. H. BARGH, the Director of Welfare Services to the Glamorgan County Council, informs me that "Mor Awelon", Sandfields, Port Talbot, was opened to residents in September, 1963. Accommodation is available for 36 persons of both sexes, allocated to 22 single bedrooms and 7 twin-bedded rooms. To be eligible for admission to a Home for the Aged, applicants must by reason of age, infirmity or other circumstances be in need of care and attention, which is not otherwise available to them.

According to the 1961 Census, the total population in the Borough area is 51,322 and the aged population (i.e. men and women over 65)—4,602. The projected estimates by 1972 envisage that the aged population will have increased to 5,106 and, to meet this requirement, the County Council propose establishing 122 beds in all, which is equivalent to four 35-bedded Homes. For your information, a second 35-bedded Home is in planning stage to be sited in the Sandfields area of Port Talbot.

Employment of Disabled Persons.

	Males.	Females.
Number Registered Disabled in December, 1963	641	51
Number Registered Disabled placed in Employment in 1963	75	4
Number Registered Disabled wholly Unemployed in December, 1963	38	4

I append below details of the unemployment figures for Port Talbot for the past ten years:—

	Males.	Females.
December, 1954	77	39
„ 1955	60	41
„ 1956	89	43
„ 1957	87	51
„ 1958	230	123
„ 1959	225	70
„ 1960	188	70
„ 1961	276	137
„ 1962	439	137
„ 1963	361	153

Industrial Medical and Amenity Services.

(1) The Steel Company of Wales Ltd.

Mr. R. W. Tovey, Secretary and Chief Accountant of the Steel Company of Wales, Ltd., Port Talbot, has kindly submitted the following valuable particulars for inclusion in this report.

1. Strength of Labour Force as at December, 1962.

Staff	4,073
Operatives	13,286
	<hr/>
	17,359
	<hr/>

2. Percentage of Registered Disabled Persons as at December, 1963—3.18%.

3. Canteen Services—

The Main Canteen at Abbey and the Margam Canteen are for staff only and operate for lunch from 12.30 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. and again for teas from 5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. These canteens also provide a trolley service for morning coffee and tea in the afternoon.

There are nine canteens serving operatives on a platter meal service which operates at breakfast and lunch in ten different departments with provision for late teas in three departments.

In two canteens we are operating a "drug store" type service which is basically, a kitchen-to-counter arrangement. In one of these locations we provide a 24-hour 7 day week service, the other operates for breakfast and lunch.

In addition to these services there are automatic vending machines which dispense a variety of snacks of particular benefit to night shift workers. An Automatic Vending Machine Company is in addition operating machines dispensing cigarettes, sweets, milk and hot and cold beverages.

4. Welfare Activities—

At the Sports and Social Club this year there are now 32 acres of grounds devoted to the playing of outdoor games, because $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres have now been reclaimed for additional facilities. There will now be two Rugby Pitches, two Soccer Pitches, two Hockey Pitches, two Cricket Squares, four Hard Tennis Courts, one Bowling Green, one Putting Green and the Short Nine Hole Golf Course for use by members.

The above games are played regularly and are well patronised. Cognisance is still taken of the needs of local organisations as in the past.

There have been improvements since the last report in so far as the Club Buildings have been modified and extended; and the Company's Reservoir at Eglwys Nunnydd has been given to the Sports Club for use by the Sailing Section and any other Section which cares to do so. The extensions to the Club building should be complete in approximately three months time, when there will then be three bars, one of which is a Lounge Bar.

Billiards, snooker and darts can all be played within the Club.

The Subscription still remains at threepence per week, with a subscription of five shillings per annum for Family Membership.

5. Atmospheric Pollution.

Since our last report on the 13th June, 1963, in an effort to minimise the red oxide fume emission, the Company has placed orders for a further four of the open hearth furnaces to be equipped with electrostatic

precipitation equipment. This will leave only four of the original twenty-four open hearth furnaces which were the source of fume emission.

(2) British Hydrocarbon Chemicals Ltd.

During the early part of 1963, a new industrial plant was commissioned to the west of the Sandfields Housing Estate, namely the British Hydrocarbon Chemicals Limited, Baglan Bay Works. Mr. G. Peters, the Works General Manager, has very kindly forwarded to me certain particulars of his plant and it is my pleasure to incorporate these in my Annual Report.

Mr. Peters states that the Baglan Bay Works of British Hydrocarbon Chemicals Limited and Forth Chemicals was commissioned in April/May of 1963. Since this is a new plant, there has been incorporated in the design many features to reduce atmospheric pollution, e.g. the chimneys in the plant comply with the recommendation of the Alkali Inspector for furnaces burning high sulphur fuel, though, at the present time, we burn our own gas which has a low sulphur content. The minimising of other repercussions which the factory may have on the surrounding neighbourhood have also been taken care of in the design and we laid a special 6" line out into the bay to carry suspect effluent material well beyond the beaches and into an area where a survey showed that the currents would carry them out to sea.

Initially, the factory had some teething troubles in many areas including combustion problems which led to above average emission of soot and smoke. Minor modifications to the equipment and improved operating techniques have been developed which have overcome these problems.

The plant has been designed according to the most modern practices in industry which, coupled with a high standard of housekeeping, should prevent any persistent nuisance from developing.

He also adds the following statistics:—

Hourly paid personnel	294
Monthly and weekly paid personnel	207
Total	501
Employees on Register of Disabled Persons	9
Percentage	1.8%

BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

For the Year ended 31st December,

1963



BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Port Talbot.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1963. This represents my second report as your Chief Public Health Inspector but is the account of the first complete year of activities since I took office .

It is indeed true to say that our spheres of work are expanding probably to a degree not before experienced. So much so that I and my staff have found it necessary to take fresh stock of the position which arises from such expansion and to adjust ourselves accordingly. Fresh legislation is before us continually, bringing in increasing responsibilities.

We commenced, during the year, an enthusiastic attack on the last remaining two years of our five year slum clearance programme and this will show completion in the next annual report. Added to this, we brought to a conclusion an additional slum clearance programme in the Centre of Town. The Ministry will hold a Public Inquiry in connection with this order next year. Then too, we extended during the year, our daily recordings of atmospheric pollution and this takes up a measurable amount of our time. We must, too, anticipate a great deal of responsibility and work when the new Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act comes into operation next year. The important thing to remember, when work develops in one or another direction, is not to allow all other

important aspects of environmental hygiene to be neglected in any way. However, despite these extra duties I feel we can confidently claim that the work of the department has been kept to a reasonably good standard although greater attention can be given to many duties if there was less pressure being exerted all the time.

Throughout the year the whole staff has shown a marked loyalty and for that I am abundantly grateful. Our students, too, have displayed an extremely thorough approach to their duties and are proving this by their success in their examinations.

I am grateful to Dr. D. H. J. Williams, Medical Officer of Health for his kindly association and to the Town Clerk and all other officers of the Council I extend my gratitude for a marked sense of co-operation in all matters.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

LESLIE J. CARTER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector under the Factories
and Housing Act, etc.

GENERAL INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Housing Inspections and re-inspections	3,129
Structural Defects	1,292
Dains, Yards, W.C's, etc.	1,157
Amusement Houses and Cinemas, etc.	34
Verminous Premises	136
Dirty Premises	48
Accummulations	111
Ash Pits, Privies and Cesspools	3
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Caravans	29
Dairies and Milk Shops	20
Food Premises, Kitchen and Food Vehicles	1,265
Houses let in lodgings, tenements, etc.	149
Offensive Trades	11
Factories	321
Fish Friers	73
Ice-cream	115
Bakehouses	54
Want of Cleanliness	3
Overcrowding	1
Drainage of floors	1
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	2
Schools	38
Pig Styes and Swine Keeping	45
Stables, Refuse and Manure	3
Rats and Mice	7,665
Animals Improperly Kept	4
Smoke Nuisances	56
Meat Inspection and Other Food	1,450
Slaughterhouses	520
Water Supplies	7
Water Sampling—Bacteriological	301
Water Sampling—Chemical	45

Food and Drugs Sampling	323
Milk Sampling	65
Interviews with owners, etc.	1,607
Atmospheric Pollution Checks	418
Court Cases	5
Public Houses	82
Infectious Diseases	3
Ice-cream—bacteriological sampling	11
Oil Pollution on foreshore	3
Shops and Offices	272
Noise Nuisances	17
Hospitals	4
Disinfestation	65
Market	50

HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

Number of houses inspected for defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts	489
Number of visits of inspection in respect of same	3,129
Number of houses found unfit for human habitation	73
Number of houses found not in all respects to be reasonably fit for human habitation	416
Number of houses rendered fit after service of Notices	367

Some of the houses found not in all respects fit for human habitation in the latter part of 1963 would not be rendered fit until sometime in 1964, whereas some of the houses rendered fit in 1963 followed Notices served in the latter part of 1962.

The number of nuisances discovered, together with the number of Notices served during the year were as follows:—

Nature of Inspection	Nuisances discovered	Informal Notices served	Abatement Notices served
Structural Defects	224	224	29
Drains, Yards, W.C's, etc.	215	215	10
Dirty Conditions	36	36	1
Pig-Styes and Swine Keeping	6	6	—
Water Supplies	3	3	—
Food Premises	379	379	—
Atmospheric Pollution	14	14	—
Rats and Mice	102	102	4
Accumulations	95	95	6
Vermineous infestations	29	29	6
Overcrowding—Housing Act	1	1	—
Factories	2	2	—
Dairies	1	1	—
Stables, Manure and Refuse	3	3	—
Animals improperly kept	4	4	2
Mobile Shops	12	12	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds	12	12	—
Noise Nuisances	3	3	—
Offensive Trades	1	1	—
Cinemas	4	4	—
Totals	1,146	1,146	58

The nature of the work carried out to abate the various nuisances and contraventions was as follows:—

Houses :

Chimney Stacks repaired 6; Roofs repaired 64; Eavesgutters repaired or renewed 21; Walls repaired 21; Walls replastered 55; Ceilings repaired or renewed 26; Windows repaired or renewed 61; Dampness remedied 38; Floors repaired 22; Doors repaired 12; Airbricks provided 2; Fireplaces repaired 3; Staircases repaired 4; Skylight repaired 1; Skirtings repaired or renewed 4.

Drainage :

Drains tested 25; Drains relaid or repaired 16; Drains unblocked 202; Unsatisfactory drainage discontinued 2; Yards Relaid 10; New gutters provided 9; Inspection Chambers repaired 14; Ventpipes repaired or renewed 7; Cesspools re-built 1.

Toilets, Fittings, etc.:

W.C. Cisterns repaired 27; W.C. pans renewed 22; Sink waste pipes unblocked 18; W.C. compartments repaired or rebuilt 3; Overflow pipes repaired or renewed 4; Sink waste pipes renewed 4.
Factories: Dirty W.C's cleansed 10; W.C's screened 1.

Verminous and dirty houses:

Houses disinfested 116.

Accumulations:

Removed 82.

Water Supply:

Service repaired 10.

Noise Nuisances:

Sileneers provided 1.

Rats and Mice:

Premises baited: Dwelling Houses 1264; Business premises 149; Agricultural Premises 26; Infestations removed 686.

Food Premises:

Walls replastered 18; Food rooms redecorated 19; Cleanliness improved 28; Washing facilities provided or improved 16; Nail brushes and/or soap provided 46; Refuse bins provided 23; Protection of food from risk of contamination 104; Hot water provided 2; Floors repaired 8; Ceiling plastered/replastered 3; W.C.'s provided 1; W.C's repaired 1; Dirty W.C.'s cleansed 16; W.C. cisterns repaired 4.

Food Vehicles :

Names and addresses provided 14; Hot and Cold water provided 10; Nail brushes provided 16; Refuse bins provided 10; Protection of food from risk of contamination 32; Clean head coverings provided 3.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION.

Meat inspection in 1963 followed the same pattern as of previous years—with hundred per cent inspection as required of a meat marking authority. The new Private Abattoir replacing the old Public Slaughterhouse started in September of this year and is an unqualified success. Details of the number of inspections are set out on Pages 47 and 48 and the following is the quantity of diseased and unsound meat condemned at the Abattoir during the year.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE MEAT CONDEMNATIONS FOR YEAR 1963

Bulls, Bullocks and Heifers.

TUBERCULOSIS: 3 heads and tongues.

DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS:

166 Lungs	— 30 Pneumonia; 103 Pleurisy; 7 Hydatid Cysts; 26 Congested.
16 Heads and Tongues	— 8 C. Bovis; 6 Actinomycosis; 2 Fibrosis.
8 Hearts	— 8 C. Bovis.
Livers:	— 120 Part Livers—Distomatosis.
	150 Whole Livers—84 Distomatosis; 4 Cirrhosis; 11 Hydatid Cysts; 37 Abscess; 6 Peritonitis; 5 Congested; 1 Necrosis; 2 Angiomata.
19 Spleens	— Peritonitis.
1 Kidney	— Abscess.
7 Skirts	— Pleurisy.
17 Omentums & Stomachs	— 12 C. Bovis; 5 Peritonitis.
19 Mesenteries/Intestines	— 12 C. Bovis; 7 Peritonitis.

Calves.

2 Livers	— Peritonitis.
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Sheep.

1270 Lungs	— 506 Parasitic; 685 Pneumonia; 14 Pleurisy; 22 Hydatid Cysts; 43 Congested.
708 Livers	— 135 Distomatosis; 29 Hydatid Cysts; 535 Parasitic; 2 Abscess; 4 Peritonitis; 3 Tenuicollis Cysts.
20 Hearts.	— Pericarditis.
2 Carcasses	— 1 Moribund; 1 Extensive Bruising.
2 Part Carcase	— 1 Fore-septic Pleurisy; 1 Leg —Arthritis.

Pigs.

TUBERCULOSIS: 23 heads and tongues. 1 intestine and stomach.

DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS:

4 Hocks	— Arthritis.
2 Part Legs	— 1 Bruising; 1 Abscess.
1 Leg	— Fractured.
1 Shoulder	— Arthritis.
904 Lungs	— 96 Congested; 667 Pneumonia; 141 Pleurisy.
287 Livers	6 Cysts; 236 Cirrhosis; 19 Peritonitis; 20 Necrosis; 6 Parasitic.
27 Hearts	— 27 Pericarditis.
34 Kidneys	— 31 Nephritis; 3 Retention Cysts.
4 Spleens	— 4 Peritonitis.
23 Stomachs and Intestines	— 23 Peritonitis.

The percentage figures of diseased animals over a period of years are as follows:—

Tuberculosis.

Year.	Cattle excluding		Cows.		Calves.	Sheep and		Pigs.
	Cows.					Lambs.		
1953	7.98		15.74		.074	—		7.53
1954	4.63		9.14		.08	—		5.26
1955	7.79		8.21		—	—		3.64
1956	7.55		8.93		—	—		3.11
1957	3.53		16.66		.25	—		1.24
1958	6.22		20.0		—	—		2.36
1959	16.25		—		—	—		2.4
1960	.67		—		—	—		1.82
1961	.093		—		—	—		2.81
1962	0.61		—		—	—		1.07
1963	0.24		—		—	—		1.19

Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

Year.	Cattle excluding		Cows.		Calves.	Sheep and		Pigs.
	Cows.					Lambs.		
1953	53.0		63.3		5.26	43.75		50.3
1954	53.1		68.57		5.66	32.04		53.32
1955	40.2		80.67		6.6	18.24		26.25
1956	54.16		69.64		3.22	18.3		7.7
1957	48.82		84.72		3.51	19.88		27.04
1958	48.22		53.33		1.70	28.11		31.73
1959	50.7		50.0		2.0	21.3		27.6
1960	43.19		50.0		1.86	12.9		28.02
1961	32.92		40.0		.79	14.6		35.57
1962	26.86		10.0		1.5	16.01		38.55
1963	28.96		—		0.95	17.86		43.55

Bovine Cysticercosis.

Year	CATTLE OTHER THAN COWS.			Cows.		
	Examined	Affected	Percentage	Examined	Affected	Percentage
1953	1991	38	1.91	578	6	1.03
1954	2590	33	1.27	525	4	0.76
1955	2015	20	0.99	207	4	1.93
1956	1549	18	1.17	56	1	1.78
1957	1415	19	1.34	72	—	—
1958	1012	23	2.27	15	—	—
1959	785	11	1.4	2	—	—
1960	889	11	1.23	2	—	—
1961	1069	10	.93	5	—	—
1962	983	3	0.31	10	—	—
1963	1257	13	1.03	4	—	—

**UN SOUND OR UNWHOLESOME FOOD CONDEMNED
OR SURRENDERED FROM FOOD PREMISES
THROUGHOUT THE BOROUGH DURING THE YEAR :**

The amount of unsound food condemned during the year was a little less than the previous year. Nothing much need be drawn from this as reductions over a longer period is obviously necessary in judging whether or not foods are keeping better. The staff keep in constant touch with the shops and warehouses and food is regularly surrendered to us if at all suspect. The following is the quantity condemned during the year.

Canned Food Stuffs:

Canned Meats, including Hams, Corned Beef and other Meat products—
8½ cwts.

Canned Fruit including Pears, Peaches, etc.

9 cwts.

Fish, including Pilchards, Salmon, etc.

11 lbs.

Vegetables:

2 ton 6 cwts.

Frozen Foods:

132 lbs. 577 packets.

Milk Products:

51 lbs. 35 pints.

Raw Meat:

288 lbs.

Miscellaneous, including Honey, Spaghetti, etc.

10 lbs.

FOOD SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS.

Inspection and Sampling of Foods and Drugs to safeguard quality, description, etc.

During the year 323 samples of various foods and drugs were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst at the County Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff.

It will be observed that of this number only three were adulterated—this being referred to in the next section of this report.

We maintain a system of sampling which is in accord with the recognised standards laid down for the population of the Borough and endeavour to ensure that the widest variety is sampled with an even distribution over the whole Borough. We aim too, to have a selective method of sampling drugs:—

The number and variety of foods submitted for analysis were as follows:—

Milk 65; Sago 2; Semolina 1; Cake Mix 1; Pastry Mix 1; Pie Filling 1; Golden Crumbs 1; Dehydrated Meat and Rice 1; Sauce 1; Fruit Sauce 1; Mint Sauce 1; Horseradish Sauce 1; Curry Powder 2; Dried Sago 2; Dehydrated Peas 1; Canned Savoury 3; Canned Meat 23; Canned Fish 3; Canned Pudding 1; Canned Fruit 2; Canned Tomatoes 2; Canned Corn 1; Canned Veg 1; Canned Hamburgers 1; Meat Paste 2; Minced Turkey 2; Beef Sausages 5; Bottled Mussels 1; Sugar Confectionery 4; Jam 2; Prepared Jelly 1; Honey 2; Cut Mixed Peel 1; Dried Fruit 1; Raisins 1; Apple Juice 1; Chilblain Tablets 1; Mouth Salve 1; Tonic Tablets 1; Fynnon Salts 1; Cream 3; Condensed Milk 1; Ice Cream 7; Ice Cream Powder 1; Butter 11; Margarine 7; Custard Powder 2; Onion Sauce Mix 1; Bread Mix 1; Christmas Pudding 2; Pop Corn 1; Ground Cinammon 1; Blackcurrant Syrup 1; Dried Coffee Extract 1; Table Jelly 1; Vitamin Capsules 1; Vitamin Product 1; Aspirin 1; Menthol Pellets 1; Vitality Tablets 1; Cough Pastilles 1; Indigestion Tablets 1; Efferfruit Granules 1; Bicarbonate of Soda 1; Cream Cakes 1; Cheese 4; Cheese Spread 2; Dripping 3; Rice 1; Tapioca 1; Cake 2; Chocolate Biscuits 1; Fruit Pie 1; Dehydrated Curry with Rice 2; White Pepper 4; Mustard 1; Non-Chewed Condiment 1; Dried Herbs 1; Fish Paste 1; Meat Pie 1; Chicken Pie 1; Cheese Burgers 1; Frozen Fish 1; Half Gammon 1; Mussels 1; Cockles 1; Soft Drinks 2; Beverage Powder 2; Spirits 2; Tea 3; Black Treacle 1; Golden Syrup 1; Marmalade 1; Food Flavouring 1; Essence of Remet 1; MarMite 1; Citrate of Magnesia (Efferfruit) 1; Beef Steak Pudding 1; Chicken Fillets 1; Chicken with Mushrooms 1; Chopped Ham 1; Chopped Pork and Ham 1; Corned Beef 2; Game Pate 1; Ham and Beef Luncheon Meat 1; Irish Stew 1; Lancashire Hot Pot 1; London Grill 1; Meat Extract 1; Pork Roll Stuffed 1; Steak Casserole 1; Steak and Kidney Pie 1; Tangle (Ox) Slices 1; Veal Sorrento 1; Orange Juice (Canned) 1; Peaches Sliced (Canned) 1; Peanuts Salted 1; Peas Dried 1; Peas Garden (Canned) 1; Preserves 1; Ravioli 1; Rum 1; Rice Pudding (Canned) 1; Salmon (Canned) 2; Salt Cooking 1; Beans (baked with frankfurters) 1; Beans (Baked with Sausages) 1; Beans (curried with sultanias) 1; Beverage Powder 1; Cherries (Canned) 1; Cherries (Cocktail) 1; Chicken and Pie (Bottled) 1; Chow Mein 1; Coconut Dessicated 1; Coffee Soluble 2; Custard Powder 1; Crab (Dressed) 1; Dessert Mix 1; Dripping 1; Headache Tablets 1; Throat Lozenges 1; Flour Confectionery 5;

Gherkins 1; Gin 2; Gravy Browning 2; Loganberries (Canned) 1; Marzipan 1; Beef Steak and Veg. 1; Soup (Canned) 2; Sponge Bar 1; Sponge Pudding 1; Strawberries (Canned) 2; Stuffing 1; Sugar 1; Sultanias 1; Tea 1; Thyme (Dried) 1; Toffee Apple Mix 1; Vegetables (Mixed) Canned 1; Whisky 2; Vodka 1.

Total Number of Samples	323
Genuine	320
Adulterated	3

The comparison with the previous years is as follows :—

Year	No. of Samples taken	Genuine	Not Genuine
1954	240	236	4
1955	300	299	1
1956	312	304	8
1957	323	320	3
1958	337	326	11
1959	307	304	3
1960	307	305	2
1961	308	307	1
1962	308	306	2
1963	323	320	3

Number of samples taken per 1,000 of population—Estimated 51,000	6.33
Percentage of Milks taken not conforming to standards in relation to number taken	Nil.
Percentage of Foods other than Milk not conforming to standards in relation to number taken .....	.89

ADULTERATED SAMPLES.

Three samples, all informal, were found on analysis to be adulterated.

These were Effervesant Citrate of Magnesia, Curried Chicken Mushrooms, and Veal Sorrento.

Adulterations in Food:

1963 was a year in which there was brought to the notice of the Department a tremendous increase in the number of complaints of food either being unsound, affected with mould, or containing animate and inanimate foreign materials. The list set out here-under illustrates the varied nature of the complaints.

String in bread; Grub in cooked meal; Mould in loaf of bread; Rancidity in lunch at restaurant; Potato chips containing cockroach; Milk in dirty bottle; Sausage rolls affected with mould; Orange juice in dirty bottle; Fly maggots in bacon; Grub in minced loaf; Foreign object in tin of corned beef; Mould in Cornish Pasty; Cake containing earwig; Appleturlover affected with mould; Crumpets containing oil; Bread containing oil; Loaf containing earwig; Sale of unsound bacon.

The publicity which one or two prosecutions brought about early in the year undoubtedly made the general public more conscious of the ability of the Department and the Public Health Committee to deal with such offences. Hardly did a few weeks pass without one or more complaints arriving and on Page 71 will be found an account of the action taken.

I believe it ought not completely to be thought that this was an exceptional year. Rather am I prepared to think that previously the public had been too forbearing in their attitude to food adulteration but were now suddenly awakened to the consciousness that something ought to be done about such matters. Nothing but good can come of bringing these conditions to the surface and in course of time the lesson will be slowly learned that the public will just not stand for the sale of unsatisfactory food.

Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations 1925/1953

All the samples of milk, condensed milk, sterilised cream, cream and ice-cream were free from preservatives.

The following foods were reported upon as being free from sulphites:—

Sago, Semolina, Cake Mix, Pastry Mix, Pie Filling and Golden Crumbs, Apple Juice, Sugar confectionery, Honey, Jam, Prepared Jelly, Cut Mixed Peel, Dried Fruit and Raisins, Custard Powder, Onion Sauce Powder, Bread Mix, Christmas Pudding, Popcorn, Sauce, Black Treacle, Tapioca, Rice, Chocolate, Biscuits, Fruit Pie, Dehydrated Curry and Rice, Soft Drinks, Golden Syrup, Marmalade.

The analysis of the following foods showed them to be free from Boric Acid:—

Meat Paste, Minced Turkey in Jelly, Beef Sausage, Margarine, Butter, Ice-cream, Cornish Cream, Double Cream Cheese.

The sample of Sauce was found to be free from Benzoic and Salicylic Acids.

The following were within permissible limit of Sulphur Dioxide:—

Beef Sausage, Blackcurrant Syrup, Dehydrated Peas, and the soft drinks was within the permissible limit of benzoic acid.

THE SALE OF MILK REGULATIONS.

The regulations provide that unless milk contains a minimum of 3% fat and 8.5% milk solids other than milk fat it shall be presumed—unless the contrary is proved—that the milk is not genuine. The average percentage composition of the whole of the milk samples in the Borough of Port Talbot in 1963 was as follows:—

Number of milk samples taken.	Milk fat Percentage.	Non-fatty solids— Percentage.
65	3.73	8.65

The figures for the ten previous years were as follows :—

Year	No. of milk samples examined	Milk fat percentage	Non-fatty solids—percentage
1953	128	3.62%	8.66%
1954	104	3.65%	8.63%
1955	84	3.53%	8.66%
1956	72	3.60%	8.75%
1957	65	3.66%	8.45%
1958	59	3.66%	8.45%
1959	40	3.77%	8.64%
1960	62	3.66%	8.65%
1961	44	3.71%	8.64%
1962	44	3.75%	8.69%

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960.

The Milk and Dairies (Channel Islands and South Devon Milk). Regulations, 1956.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food remain responsible for duties in connection with dairy farms, and the registration of persons carrying on or proposing to engage in the business of a dairy farmer.

The Local Authority's duties are to enforce the Regulations relative to the treatment and handling of milk; the provisions regarding the infection of milk and protection against contamination, the cleansing and storage of vessels, utensils and appliances, the conveyance and distribution of milk; the registration of dairies, other than dairy farms, and of distributors.

The number of Licences granted for the sale of pasteurised, sterilised, and tuberculin tested milk in this Borough is 51.

All dairies and milk shops, etc. were regularly inspected throughout the year. Judicious sampling of milk sold from wholesale and retail establishments and during delivery to various parts of the Borough was maintained. The number of samples procured, the examination undertaken, and the result of such examination were as follows:—

Milk Sampled for Bacteriological Purposes:

	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	17	—
Pasteurised	13	—
C.I. Pasteurised	6	—
Sterilised	12	—

Milk Sampled for Adulteration:

Tuberculin Tested Pasturised	17	—
Pasteurised	13	—
C.I. Pasteurised	6	—
Sterilised	12	—
Homogenised T.T. (Past)	—	—

It is pleasing to note that the results of the examination of all samples of milk taken were satisfactory.

There is a number of milk vending automatic machines in different parts of the Borough, and it can be said in their favour that the milk is sold in non-returnable cartons. One hopes that in the course of time it may be possible for the industry to develop this method more, as this seems to be the only means of ensuring a completely hundred per cent elimination of the type of contamination referred to.

In addition there are installed in 15 shops and/or restaurants milk dispensers for the supply of milk for consumption on the premises. We keep a careful watch on the purity of this method of supplying milk.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING OF ICE CREAM

During the year eleven samples of ice-cream were taken for bacteriological examination, of these eight were satisfactory and classified grade I and three were classified as fair, grade II.

AUTOMATIC VENDING OF FOOD

In general the sale of more food from automatic machines has continued in more or less the same manner as referred to in my previous report. The major concentration of these machines is still at the Steel Company of Wales where over one hundred are installed for the sale of ice-cream, snacks, coffee and chocolate drinks, milk, orange drinks and tea. The sale of food from automatic machines also continues at various points throughout the Borough there being indications that such machines for chocolates and sweets are, once again, being popular at such places as Railway Platforms, etc. Systematic sampling in particular of the milk products, are carried out for Bacteriological and Chemical analysis.

INDUSTRIAL AND OTHER CATERING

All our big industrial concerns in the Borough are provided with canteens for their staffs. In these industries there are twenty canteens providing 3,500 meals a day and this figure does not include the many snacks provided as well.

In addition there are twenty-five school canteens and dining centres providing 5,340 meals per day and in the Borough itself there are twenty-six restaurants which bring the total of meals provided outside the home to quite a considerable figure.

Mostly the standard maintained is very good with efficient personnel and an awareness of satisfactory standards.

We also have in our Municipal Buildings a small canteen catering for coffee, tea and light refreshments and at mid-day a few cooked meals. Members of Council and of the staff make excellent use of these facilities which are admittedly on somewhat a small scale but which will endeavour to develop when more space is available. The canteen is managed extremely well by the Beach and Promenade Inspector and there are two full time employees engaged in the preparation and sale of meals and refreshments.

ICE CREAM

The manufacture, sale and control of ice cream always merits a special place in this annual report.

In Port Talbot we have nine manufacturers of ice-cream, and a total of one hundred and fifty -four premises registered for the manufacture and/or sale of ice-cream.

All sea-side towns must pay the utmost regard to its standards so far as ice-cream is prepared and sold. Fine summer days bring people to the town, and especially the beach and promenade, in their very many thousands. Particularly at the beach and Amusement Parks, on days of this kind, employees are strained to the utmost, and standards can fall because of this very fact.

We give a daily control to the beach during the summer months. The knowledge that we are about, keeping our eye on things, is often sufficient to keep better awareness of food standards amongst food handlers. The kiosks on the Promenade are permanent structures, and those at the amusement parks are in situ for the season. Each kiosk has its own hot and cold water and washing facilities. The manufacture of soft ice-cream is not one viewed with a great deal of satisfaction by public health officials, because of the dangers that can ensue, if carelessness is present, with ice-cream not as cold and frozen as we prefer it to be.

Vehicles selling ice-cream are equipped with the same facilities, but of course demand much attention from us. I would like to see a second person on every vehicle—no driver can possibly keep himself really clean at all times—much less if he has trouble with the engine.

PUBLIC HOUSES

We have forty licensed houses and hotels in the Borough. The new houses built in recent years are all constructed to modern design and are satisfactory in their hygienic standards. The condition of a few of the older premises is not altogether satisfactory and as they get older so more work is needed on them to keep them in a reasonable condition.

FOOD HYGIENE

It would be wrong to assert that in every respect we are satisfied with food hygiene standards. For the most part, of course, the lessons have been well learned and the general picture presented in the town is a satisfactory one, and I believe Port Talbot is well to the forefront of local authorities in the standards of food hygiene.

There is not a single open fronted shop left in the Borough; the practice often seen elsewhere of food displayed on pavements is immediately checked and stopped and ready co-operation is received in this respect from all but the very few who exist in all communities and who need more watching than others.

One matter of concern to us is the apparent ignorance of a certain minority of shop-keepers who start equipping themselves for the sale of ice-cream without attempting to notify the Local Authority of the intention to do so and to sell this commodity without registration. This is in no small way made worse by what is an unexcusable attitude of sellers of ice-cream refrigerators in saddling shop-keepers with this equipment and with ice-cream, leaving them with the clear impression that nothing more is needed to do to sell it. This puts the shop keeper in real risk of prosecution and even worse, if there is not real ability to comply with the Regulations should the premises not be satisfactory, he could be left with severe financial liabilities.

Difficulties also arise with kiosk holders in such places as fair grounds, who plead ignorance of knowledge and responsibility, in selling ice-cream, etc., from ill-equipped stalls often set up overnight without approach to the local authority and because of this selling ice-cream without registration. So far we have not prosecuted for this kind of offence. Rather have we helped the offenders to put their house in order immediately. Far firmer standards for stalls are required in future Food Hygiene Regulations.

There is no doubt whatsoever, too, that persons of different nationality either through intent or ignorance, are very hard to bring to our standards of food hygiene. To say the least of it, some of them are a positive danger to the community in their methods of food handling and the language question is a very difficult barrier to overcome as well. There would seem to be good sense in making a plea for the registration and medical examination of all food handlers.

Rapidly developing feeding in industrial canteens is a matter which must concern all public health authorities and a reference to this matter will be found on page

Restaurants and Cafes.

Port Talbot has, in the past, perhaps not been as well supplied with restaurants and cafes as it could be. Except for a few there were none which could cater for the real needs of large numbers of people.

In general, until of recent years, most of our coffee houses and restaurants, other than hotels, were converted from former dwelling houses and lacked real space for customers and for food preparation and washing up facilities. Lack of space prevented the provision of sufficient sanitary accommodation and practically none of the smaller premises were able to provide any accommodation at all for the public.

Three main hotels in the Borough are well equipped for meals and provided with facilities to conform with the Food Hygiene Standards. One cafe has been well modernised and re-opened, to a large part, as a well designed steak bar. Of recent years about seven new restaurants, including two Indian and two Chinese Restaurants have been opened in the Borough. Another started business during the year at the Amusement Park and Promenade, and has played no small part in being able to cater for the many thousands of visitors to our beach. In addition, our Tea Gardens at the Beach provide, to no small measure, for thousands of people to enjoy light refreshments in the open air.

Generally, the standards are very good and we have developed an atmosphere of co-operation with the various proprietors which manages to bring out the best results.

As with all new food premises, proposed plans of new restaurants, etc., are submitted to my department for observations before they are placed before the Housing and Town Planning Committee for approval.

BEACH ACTIVITIES IN RELATION TO FOOD

A close guard has to be maintained on the many food and other activities at our beach, promenade and gardens. Here the picture, as we knew it, a few years ago, has completely changed with such rapidity that it has not been an easy matter to march in step with its progress.

However, the Corporation approached the problem of providing food premises in the only satisfactory way. The old unsatisfactory kiosks were removed and in their place were built permanent kiosk shops built to the standard design and fitted with the means of abiding by the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations. It must be admitted that to a measure the accommodation in certain respects is too cramped to promote the best standards at all times. The beach is an extremely busy place of resort on any fine day in the summer months and unflagging endeavours must be made by all to maintain the best standards of food hygiene. On our promenade there are twelve kiosks selling in the main a full variety of food, including ice-cream in a proportion of them.

Side by side with our beach activities is an amusement park under private control. Here we are confronted with all the problems traditionally associated with a fair ground. Kiosks were set up at vantage points in the enclosure and these are in general rented out to private individuals for the sale of ice-cream, lollipops, candy floss, sweets, etc. It is built on a well set out concreted area with sufficient space for the public to congregate to enjoy the fair. Although we had difficulty at the start with kiosks setting up almost overnight and embarking upon the sale of food without proper facilities we quickly managed to see that such facilities were provided and all of these premises selling food are provided with hot and cold water and washing facilities to bring them into compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations. Concern is sometimes felt that often with a quickly changing occupancy of these kiosks, there is a lack of regard for the installation of the necessary facilities but, by and large, we have managed to bring all into compliance without having to resort to stronger measures than our own efforts.

A serious matter relating to noise from this fair ground is being referred to in the appropriate section of this report.

PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955:

Premises registered under the above Act are:—

Ice-cream premises 154; Fish frying premises 15; Sausage and prepared meat premises 45.

The general standard of these premises continues to be good and the improvements that have been carried out during recent years have been well maintained.

Number, Type and Classification of Food Premises.

The following are the variety of food premises for which complete records are now filed at the office:—

Licensed premises	40
Bakehouses	7
Wet Fish, Fruit and Vegetables	9
Greengrocers	12
Grocers	168
Catering Establishments	15
Butchers	42
Wet Fish	3
Fish Friers	15
Miscellaneous	23

We have, also in addition to our Municipal Market, a number of works or industrial canteens, stalls at the Beach, and Mobile Shops or Street Trading Vans.

WATER SAMPLES

Three hundred and one samples of water were taken by your Public Health Inspectors for bacteriological examination during the year. These represent a carefully selected series of samples prepared in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health so that month by month a complete check is made of every source used in the Borough for drinking purposes and also for swimming purposes in our indoor baths.

The new source of supply taken from the River Neath has operated throughout the year. Not only has the supply considerably augmented the town's water, but its quality has been good, as is instanced by there being no unsatisfactory results of the final treated water at all.

A total of fifty-two samples were found to be bacteriologically unsatisfactory and of these forty-four were of unchlorinated water and eight were taken before treatment. These are particularised as follows:—

Before Chlorination:

River Neath	21
Aberdulais treatment plant (after filtration)	16
Cwmbrombil Res.	3
S.C.O.W. Res.	3
Baglan	1
	<hr/> 44 <hr/>

After Chlorination and/or treatment:

Margam Area	3
Taibach	1
Aberavon	3
Bryn	1
	<hr/> 8 <hr/>

In addition forty-five samples of water were taken for chemical analysis and only in six instances did the Public Analyst indicate that the physical characteristics were not satisfactory.

SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES WITHIN THE BOROUGH

Reference was made in last year's Report to the new Private Abattoir which was then in the course of construction. As anticipated the new building was ready for occupancy in September, 1963, and the proprietors, who in the meantime, had been using the old unsatisfactory Slaughterhouse on the adjoining site, made an immediate transfer into the new building.

The new Abattoir is very good indeed and its good construction and design lends itself to smooth and economic working. The premises can be easily kept clean and the more modern equipment and methods used would provide for a bigger kill should the occasion demand. The cooling hall also is adequate and satisfactory.

Meat Inspection at the Abattoir.

We of course experienced no difficulty in complying with the new Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, as we have been a Meat Marking authority for many years.

The number of animals slaughtered is almost the same as in the previous year. Slaughtering is carried out every day of the week including Sundays. On this latter point I feel bound to add what weight I can for legislation to prevent what is surely an out-of-date and unnecessary imposition on the Sunday leisure of the Meat Inspector.

At the two Slaughterhouses during the year the total number of animals killed was 12,349. The figures for the previous years are as follows:—

1953	—	27,383	1958	—	12,590
1954	—	44,497	1959	—	12,795
1955	—	30,693	1960	—	11,549
1956	—	18,721	1961	—	13,019
1957	—	11,047	1962	—	12,746

MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS, 1963

The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, made under the provisions of Section 13 and 123 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, came into operation on the 15th October, 1963.

The Regulations provide for one hundred per cent meat inspection by all Authorities and for the marking of carcasses to indicate fitness for human consumption. We in Port Talbot have by virtue of being a meat marking Authority for some years complied with this part of the Regulations but Regulation 12 however, provides in addition for the making of charges for meat inspection.

In considering the regulations, Council decided to make the maximum charge for animals inspected for human consumption but on a plea by the proprietors of the private abattoir—the only slaughtering point in the Borough—Council agreed to charge fifty per cent of the maximum allowed and decided to review the situation in twelve months time. Thus for the time being the charges made are as follows:—

- (a) In the case of each bovine animal other than calf 1/3d.
- (b) In the case of each calf or pig 4½d.
- (c) In the case of each sheep, lamb or goat 3d.

ANNUAL SLAUGHTERHOUSE RETURNS.

The weekly slaughtering returns for 1962 were as follows :—

1963 Week Ending		BULLS, BULLOCKS AND HEIFERS												Cows		CALVES		SHEEP		PIGS	
		Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals						
Jan.	5	.....	236	236	26	26	—	—	—	—	5	5	158	158	47	47				
	12	.....	231	467	24	50	—	—	—	—	4	9	153	311	50	97				
	19	.....	136	603	19	69	—	—	—	—	6	15	91	402	20	117				
Feb.	26	.....	144	747	19	88	—	—	—	—	7	22	70	472	48	165				
	2	.....	119	866	21	109	—	—	—	—	2	24	50	522	46	211				
	9	.....	125	991	20	129	—	—	—	—	2	26	56	578	47	258				
March	16	.....	102	1093	18	147	—	—	—	—	8	34	24	602	52	310				
	23	.....	141	1234	20	167	—	—	—	—	9	43	32	634	80	390				
	2	.....	122	1356	22	189	—	—	—	—	8	51	27	661	65	455				
April	9	.....	93	1449	14	203	—	—	—	—	7	58	9	670	63	518				
	16	.....	110	1559	21	224	—	—	—	—	3	61	15	685	71	589				
	23	.....	107	1666	19	243	—	—	—	—	11	72	12	697	65	654				
May	30	.....	86	1752	16	259	—	—	—	—	5	77	16	713	49	703				
	6	.....	112	1864	22	281	—	—	—	—	15	92	11	724	64	767				
	13	.....	123	1987	15	296	—	—	—	—	5	97	36	760	67	834				
June	20	.....	82	2069	22	318	—	—	—	—	3	100	13	773	44	878				
	27	.....	112	2181	24	342	—	—	—	—	4	104	29	802	55	933				
	4	.....	116	2297	28	370	—	—	—	—	6	110	23	825	59	992				
July	11	.....	140	2437	27	397	—	—	—	—	2	112	61	886	50	1042				
	18	.....	137	2574	27	424	—	—	—	—	3	115	54	940	53	1095				
	25	.....	119	2693	26	450	—	—	—	—	1	116	44	984	48	1143				
August	1	.....	119	2812	17	467	—	—	—	—	4	120	54	1038	44	1187				
	8	.....	132	2944	21	488	—	—	—	—	3	123	60	1098	48	1235				
	15	.....	129	3073	20	508	—	—	—	—	1	124	76	1174	32	1267				
September	22	.....	145	3218	21	529	—	—	—	—	3	127	82	1256	39	1306				
	29	.....	163	3381	22	551	—	—	—	—	2	129	96	1352	43	1349				
	6	.....	187	3568	24	575	—	—	—	—	3	132	106	1458	54	1403				
October	13	.....	185	3753	26	601	—	—	—	—	1	133	119	1577	39	1442				
	20	.....	169	3922	23	624	—	—	—	—	2	135	98	1675	46	1488				
	27	.....	198	4120	22	646	—	—	—	—	1	136	130	1805	45	1533				
November	3	.....	190	4310	15	661	—	—	—	—	3	139	131	1956	41	1574				
	10	.....	215	4525	24	685	—	—	—	—	4	143	140	2076	47	1621				
	17	.....	201	4726	19	704	—	—	—	—	2	145	134	2210	46	1667				
December	24	.....	252	4978	21	725	—	—	—	—	2	147	175	2385	54	1721				
	31	.....	237	5215	19	744	—	—	—	—	2	149	160	2545	56	1777				

Annual Slaughterhouse Returns—Continued.

1963 Week Ending	BULLS, BULLOCKS AND HEIFERS				Cows		CALVES		SHEEP		Pigs	
	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals
Sept. 7	244	5459	20	764	—	—	2	151	168	2713	54	1831
14	393	5852	33	797	—	—	5	156	334	3047	21	1852
21	380	6232	29	826	—	—	3	159	297	3344	51	1903
28	437	6669	30	856	—	—	5	164	349	3693	53	1956
Oct. 5	608	7277	27	883	—	—	5	169	526	4219	50	2006
12	560	7837	38	921	—	—	3	172	456	4675	63	2069
19	596	8433	27	948	—	—	8	180	515	5190	46	2115
26	473	8906	28	976	2	2	2	182	380	5570	61	2176
Nov. 2	463	9369	36	1012	1	3	3	185	369	5939	54	2230
9	435	9804	32	1044	—	—	2	187	343	6282	58	2288
16	439	10243	31	1075	—	—	4	191	361	6643	43	2331
23	371	10614	31	1106	—	—	2	193	298	6941	40	2371
30	408	11022	35	1141	—	—	5	198	317	7258	51	2422
Dec. 7	413	11435	32	1173	—	—	4	202	326	7584	51	2473
14	374	11809	30	1203	—	—	6	208	281	7865	57	2530
21	421	12230	30	1233	—	—	3	211	246	8111	142	2672
28	119	12349	24	1257	1	1	—	211	77	8188	17	2689

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condenned in Whole or in Part during 1963.

Number Killed Number Inspected	Bulls, Bullocks and Heifers				Cows		Calves		Sheep & Lambs		Pigs	
	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCOSIS.
Whole carcasses condemned
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.
Whole carcasses condemned
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis
CYSTICERCOSIS.
Generalised and totally condemned
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercosis

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Daily Volumetric Readings of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide.

In April Council authorised the installation of volumetric daily recordings of smoke and sulphur dioxide. Two stations were decided upon—one at my department which is well positioned to monitor smoke and sulphur dioxide from Nos. 1 and 2 Blast Furnaces of the Steel Company of Wales in particular. The second instrument was placed at the Groeswen Hospital and this was well sited for monitoring the coke ovens, etc. The two sites were chosen in consultation with a representative of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Warren Springs.

With the operations of these daily recordings it was decided to discontinue the monthly readings of sulphur deposits by the sulphur dioxide candles and also the grit deposit gauge at Bryn was felt to be no longer providing useful information. The grit deposit gauges in Taibach and Cwmavon were kept going and they are giving readings of great value to us.

The Steel Company of Wales immediately agreed to co-operate with us in this matter and they themselves installed two Eight Port Valve Daily Recordings Instruments one on their Sports Pavilion in Margam and the other at their former main office near the Port Talbot General Railway Station.

The readings have been maintained on a 7 day a week period. We perform all the necessary titrations and volumetric readings and this has proved to be a saving in costs of Analyst's fees, particularly with the dis-continuation of the monthly SO₂ figures.

In October, permission was given to purchase two additional volumetric daily recording units for placing in Tollgate Park and Baglan Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic. The first of these two locations is advantageous in monitoring the pollution which is drawn towards the Brombil Valley, and the second records, among other matters, pollution which would emanate from the British Hydrocarbons and any pollution which would come from the Briton Ferry Steel Company (just outside our Border).

An analysis of the readings obtained during the months of the year that the units operated is shown on page

The Steel Company of Wales continued its recordings of Dust, Soot and Sulphur Dioxide pollution at the points indicated in the Table set out on Pages 52 and 53.

DAILY RECORDINGS OF SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE

As indicated earlier in this Report we commenced in April to record the daily quantities of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere. Each reading is plotted on a graph and presented to the Public Health Committee each month.

A summary of the highest, lowest and average readings from the stations in commission shown in microgrammes per cubic meter is given in the following table. The station at Baglan was not quite ready by the end of the year.

Month.	Station.	SMOKE			S.O. ₂		
		High- est.	Low- est.	Aver- age.	High- est.	Low- est.	Aver- age.
April	C.P.H.I.'s Dept. Tailbach.	168	0	62.6	228	6	90.2
May	C.P.H.I.'s Dept.	72	0	40.78	257	23	51.86
	Groes Wen Hospital, Margam	28	0	14.00	131	35	81.45
June	C.P.H.I.'s Dept.	120	0	25.09	145	6	54.86
	Groes Wen Hospital, Margam	52	0	9.06	161	12	53.41
July	C.P.H.I.'s Dept.	70	8	31.6	102	18	56.4
	Groes Wen Hospital, Margam	42	2	14.5	100	18	54.2
August	C.P.H.I.'s Dept.	91	10	33.6	149	27	57
	Groes Wen Hospital, Margam	39	3	14.8	107	25	49
September	C.P.H.I.'s Dept.	163	11	61.0	320	38	83
	Groes Wen Hospital, Margam	99	17	36.0	140	19	76
October	C.P.H.I.'s Dept.	114	20	59.0	193	31	75
	Groes Wen Hospital, Margam	58	15	35.0	142	32	70
November	C.P.H.I.'s Dept.	106	18	61	525	19	134
	Groes Wen						
	Hospital, Margam	110	0	80	168	0	88
	Tollgate Park, Margam	77	0	32	299	0	77
December	C.P.H.I.'s Dept.	183	38	97	134	30	66
	Groes Wen						
	Hospital, Margam	114	0	44	229	0	83
	Tollgate Park, Margam	118	0	64	163	18	64

RECORDS OF DEPOSITED POLLUTION OF DUST, SOOT, Etc.

(In tons per square mile).

Month	ABERAVON.					CWMAVON.		
	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1961.	1962.	1963.
January	33.20	33.40	24.92	19.55	34.98		27.99	3.06
February	29.72	38.93	14.29	20.90	25.91		8.70	6.06
March	30.39	12.23	27.04	18.95	5.93		9.88	14.65
April	9.08	10.60	23.13	21.18	27.28		9.65	14.95
May	17.20	27.13	9.18	12.39	17.06		13.86	12.48
June	14.09	18.13	19.91	23.09	Instruments re-sited for remaining months.	8.07	8.46	11.40
July	22.63	24.99	18.72	23.72		10.63	16.75	6.85
August	31.19	18.12	19.62	14.11		12.58	12.71	14.87
September	25.32	22.60	14.58	17.56		18.54	°	13.77
October	32.48	20.84	43.44	26.02		27.83	8.63	12.45
November	17.16	10.10	53.08	25.62		13.17	7.44	35.83
December	25.81	30.72	48.01	41.83		17.68	11.76	7.80
TOTAL	288.27	267.79	315.95	296.92	111.16	108.50	125.83	153.97

° No result—broken bottle. Totals for previous year 1956—246.09.

Month.	TOWN CENTRE.					BRYN.		
	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1961.	1962.	1963.
January	35.60	24.23	23.31	23.16	27.50		24.02	2.29
February	26.14	27.37	7.11	22.95	26.90		8.68	4.49
March	30.36	3.99	40.70	9.85	5.44		10.74	18.99
April	9.95	10.93	20.08	16.14	31.45		12.04	†
May	18.86	24.60	7.31	18.74	14.26		11.64	
June	14.06	15.94	17.32	27.96	Instruments re-sited for remaining months.	16.40	5.43	
July	21.25	21.38	19.60	33.33		13.65	8.71	
August	23.18	15.41	12.01	20.38		12.56	13.09	
September	25.13	28.26	8.20	17.12		13.65	°	
October	28.32	21.17	22.88	17.95		21.93	9.38	
November	14.39	9.81	38.42	50.52		9.74	7.26	
December	36.39	26.54	53.87	33.52		5.73	10.90	
TOTAL	283.63	229.63	281.81	291.62	105.55	93.66	121.89	25.77

° Bottle broken in transit. Totals for previous year 1956—247.30.

† Discontinued April 1963.

TAIBACH							
Month.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.
January	86.95	55.71	48.79	43.53	70.29	104.47	6.09
February	63.79	68.89	14.30	62.04	74.02	35.42	4.31
March	86.20	15.88	23.30	14.96	13.18	†	53.83
April	26.52	32.79	61.47	45.93	58.87	53.21	53.04
May	88.03	82.37	26.97	37.48	27.89	54.42	53.49
June	32.54	41.86	49.62	83.22	35.22	39.87	°
July	57.19	72.13	63.28	158.23	39.36	34.42	40.45
August	41.81	53.83	29.91	52.46	44.18	71.65	59.44
September	56.74	58.86	25.58	45.07	54.49	70.77	36.24
October	90.41	37.95	74.37	33.50	58.87	35.90	40.76
November	23.69	24.03	79.28	107.45	°	34.89	°°
December	63.75	46.91	112.55	77.13	54.79	26.42	14.79
TOTAL	717.62	591.21	612.42	761.00	531.26	561.44	362.44

° Bottle tampered with. † Bottle stolen.

°° No result—bottle blown over in wind.

DEPOSITED POLLUTION OF DUST, SOOT, Etc.

(In tons per square mile).

Records supplied by the Steel Company of Wales.

MONTH	PORT TALBOT PARK. 1961.	FOUR WINDS HOTEL. 1961. 1962.	THOMAS BROS. 1962. 1963.	EMPLOY- MENT EX- CHANGE. 1961. 1962. 1963.	GENERAL OFFICES BLOCK C ABBAY WORKS 1961. 1962. 1963.	COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION 1961. 1962. 1963.
January	37.11	219.77	4.28	34.71	24.87	2.89
February	34.33	38.77	8.64	37.93	11.84	6.59
March	23.87	31.71	24.18	20.56	13.29	28.39
April	58.45	194.66	25.02	66.94	12.46	17.98
May	26.71		25.59	42.05	22.07	17.85
June		25.86	11.84		9.97	14.48
July		14.11	34.01		37.84	10.13
August		35.90	45.62		25.61	19.29
September		39.03	27.04		25.80	17.06
October		44.71	13.03		18.22	13.73
November		120.04	14.38		10.87	26.10
December		106.82	16.94		13.48	6.43
	Instruments re-sited for remaining months of 1961	Instruments re-sited for remaining months of 1962		Instruments re-sited for remaining months of 1961		Instruments re-sited for remaining months of 1961
TOTAL	180.47	286.47	484.91	202.19	125.48	180.92
			188.45		210.21	380.67
			204.83		227.92	699.19

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Sulphur Pollution Records as Supplied by Steel Company of Wales.
(Estimation by lead peroxide)

STATIONS.

MONTH	FOUR WINDS.		THOMAS BROS.		COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION			BAGLAN HALL, PORT TALBOT		
	1961.	1962.	1962.	1963.	1961.	1962.	1963.	1961	1962.	1963.
January		0.94		2.09		1.13	1.37	0.44		0.70
February		0.57				0.95		0.31		
March		1.56		2.47		0.96	°	0.32		0.42
April		0.78		1.21		0.68	0.75	0.35		0.21
May				1.88		1.14	1.00	0.22		0.012
June	0.43		0.51	0.43	0.77	1.11	0.86	0.19	0.20	0.52
July	0.54		0.43	0.32	0.68	0.85	0.64	0.20	0.22	0.18
August	0.58		0.29	0.51	1.29	0.71	1.39	0.26	0.31	0.25
September	0.46		0.78	0.62	0.45	0.92	1.19	0.019	0.30	0.30
October	1.40		0.88	1.41	1.08	0.97	1.18	0.26	0.30	0.73
November	1.16		1.50	1.11	1.60	0.68	1.08	0.269	0.37	0.80
December	1.49		1.49	2.60	1.74	1.15	0.99	0.445	0.62	0.60
TOTAL	6.06	3.85	6.29	12.65	7.31	11.25	10.55	1.643	3.96	4.722

° No result, sample spoiled.

SULPHUR POLLUTION RECORDS (Estimation of Sulphur by Lead Peroxide Method)

Month	1960			1961			1962			1963		
	Town Centre	Taibach	Aberavon	Town Centre	Bryn	Taibach	Aberavon	Bryn	Taibach	Cwmavon	Bryn	Taibach
January	1.83	2.12	1.52	1.18	3.10	0.72	0.24	1.01	0.62			
February	1.53	1.81	0.99	1.20	2.40	0.64	0.58	0.81	1.43			
March	1.13	1.55	2.21	1.00	1.34	0.95	0.41	0.36	3.10			
April	0.95	1.38	0.73	1.00	1.14	0.63	0.69		Discontinued.			
May	0.56	0.83	0.61	0.79	1.08		0.41					
June	0.90	1.43	0.52		0.91	0.23	0.29					
July	0.99	3.32	0.28		0.21	0.30	0.31					
August	0.76	1.30	0.39		0.18	0.29	0.42					
September	0.67	1.42	0.68		0.22	0.39	0.31					
October	0.81	0.88	1.23		0.27	0.48	0.55					
November	1.58	3.80	1.49		0.34	0.71	0.60					
December	1.40	1.76	0.83		0.41	0.80	0.63					
TOTAL	13.11	21.60	11.48	5.17	1.94	23.69	2.94	4.17	21.39	5.44	2.18	4.53
							3.20					2.81

PORT TALBOT RAINFALL.

(Rainfall in inches).

Month.	ABERAVON.					CWMAVON. (11 months)		
	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1961.	1962.	1963.
January	3.76	3.92	4.64	4.28	5.01		4.83	0.37
February	4.93	5.55	0.41	4.07	3.07		2.14	1.84
March	5.36	0.97	4.47	1.79	0.18		2.61	6.05
April	0.34	0.83	3.77	2.46	5.71		3.63	4.43
May	1.91	5.09	0.81	0.58	1.38		4.05	2.74
June	0.94	4.77	3.33	1.60		2.11	1.37	3.57
July	3.89	5.46	2.53	5.79		1.96	2.54	3.34
August	4.46	4.81	1.56	4.66	Station re-sited for remaining months of 1961	4.91	4.53	5.06
September	5.82	7.08	0.33	4.86		4.91	°	3.34
October	4.77	4.93	5.44	6.26		6.82	2.03	3.54
November	2.04	3.34	7.17	8.21		3.59	2.94	7.58
December	2.66	4.93	5.94	5.82		5.36	2.72	1.85
TOTAL	40.88	51.78	40.40	50.38	15.35	29.66	33.39	41.71

* No result—Broken Bottle.

Month.	TOWN CENTRE.					BRYN. (11 months)		
	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1961.	1962.	1963.
January	3.52	3.76	4.45	4.45	4.93		5.68	0.29
February	4.71	4.57	0.38	3.58	3.07		2.19	1.94
March	5.06	0.26	4.60	1.91	0.19		2.89	5.78
April	0.36	0.65	4.02	2.59	5.92		3.59	
May	1.92	3.39	0.67	0.94	1.41		4.44	
June	0.64	3.58	2.77	1.75		2.45	1.71	
July	3.69	3.94	2.96	5.90	Station re-sited for remaining months of 1961	1.92	2.88	
August	4.31	2.98	1.41	4.45		5.23	6.00	
September	6.05	6.70	0.35	5.06		4.98	°	
October	4.50	5.18	4.89	6.26		8.26	2.82	
November	2.10	3.31	7.09	7.91		3.61	3.54	
December	2.57	4.94	6.05	5.60		3.40	2.58	
TOTAL	39.42	43.26	39.64	50.40	15.52	29.85	38.32	8.01

* Bottle broken in transit.

GROES.							
Month.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.
January	3.67	3.71	4.89	4.82	5.26	5.17	0.51
February	4.72	4.94	0.45	3.51	3.05	1.78	1.97
March	5.26	0.91	4.43	2.15	0.60	2.51	5.42
April	0.43	0.76	3.59	2.71	5.97	3.14	3.98
May	2.24	4.94	0.83	1.09	1.60	2.98	2.04
June	1.03	4.51	2.74	2.19	1.82	1.08	2.62
July	3.97	4.80	2.90	5.53	2.45	3.13	2.31
August	4.37	5.48	1.60	4.08	3.96	4.50	5.06
September	6.94	8.62	0.37	6.08	3.83	4.92	2.51
October	4.44	4.54	5.24	6.04	6.99	1.28	2.35
November	2.06	3.41	6.91	9.77	3.88	3.06	9.73
December	2.65	5.25	8.83	5.35	4.34	2.59	1.53
TOTAL	41.78	51.87	52.78	54.32	43.75	36.14	40.03
Totals for previous years: 1954, 61.57; 1955, 38.37 1956, 36.67.							

REGENT, TAIBACH							
Month.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.
January	3.03	3.38	4.63	4.66	4.79	5.08	0.31
February	4.47	4.92	0.36	3.39	2.91	1.92	0.32
March	4.40	0.73	4.79	1.69	0.22	°	4.90
April	0.24	0.58	4.04	2.46	6.03	3.21	3.83
May	1.85	3.91	0.76	1.06	1.47	3.11	1.76
June	0.73	4.10	2.42	1.96	1.47	0.95	°
July	3.37	5.18	3.00	6.29	2.06	2.60	2.14
August	4.38	5.05	1.38	4.55	3.68	4.34	5.21
September	6.28	7.43	0.28	5.23	3.70	5.43	2.53
October	3.99	5.55	5.23	7.62	7.35	1.40	2.00
November	1.89	3.20	6.48	7.83	4.10	3.16	°
December	2.30	2.30	2.00	5.58	4.73	2.49	1.39
TOTAL	37.03	46.33	39.37	53.32	42.51	33.69	24.39

° Bottle broken.

PORT TALBOT SUNSHINE.

(Sunshine in hours).

GROES.							
Month.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.
January	49.6	51.1	72.3	34.0	41.6	66.6	86.1
February	91.4	45.1	88.1	82.3	47.2	86.3	97.6
March	84.3	107.2	93.1	111.0	111.1	130.3	107.1
April	172.2	108.1	124.7	178.7	105.1	160.4	126.5
May	205.2	166.0	193.8	181.7	188.0	186.2	161.4
June	288.3	166.0	208.9	221.7	203.0	246.9	179.2
July	147.4	107.8	194.0	152.0	189.5	159.2	147.2
August	147.4	88.0	163.6	156.2	163.8	145.1	127.2
September	90.0	106.2	206.2	121.5	125.7	110.9	117.6
October	82.4	85.8	°	88.4	86.5	150.0	60.3
November	62.3	40.0	°	61.0	71.6	47.6	57.2
December	56.2	23.4	32.7	64.3	78.9	67.6	60.1
TOTAL	1476.7	1094.7	1355.4	1452.4	1412.0	1557.1	1327.5

° Records Incomplete.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Our main and biggest concern in Port Talbot is the pollution of the atmosphere by iron oxide mostly from the open hearth furnaces and the V.L.N. Bessemers at the Steel Company of Wales, Margam. A perusal of the grit, dust and sulphur readings for the year in general show them to be of a fair average in comparison with recent years. Unfortunately they do not portray the heavy volume of iron oxide which is undoubtedly the worse of our troubles, shown, in particular, visually in the sky, obliterating the sunshine and depositing itself on roofs and ledges of houses, having also its effect on the housewife's weekly wash, etc.

The Management were able to inform us in July that the Company were planning for the installation of more electrostatic precipitators on the open hearth furnaces which were expected to be started in about 12 months time, but at the same time we feel much discouraged that no solution seems yet possible on the existing V.L.N. Furnaces.

So far as the British Hydrocarbon Chemicals is concerned the story is one of having to overcome many of the teething troubles which were present in the commissioning period of this new plant. Breakdown trouble was experienced in the Cracking Towers and Flare Stacks, and huge quantities of carbonaceous matter, which normally is disposed of in the Flare Stacks, unfortunately found their way into the atmosphere and on one occasion deposited a considerable layer over a wide area of the Sandfields Estate and the Beach and Promenade.

To the credit of the Company and its staff a gradual improvement took place and the initial difficulties were overcome so that by the end of the year it could be said that so far as smoke and dust emission was concerned the plant became well behaved.

Residents in the area were concerned too, with the emission into the atmosphere of odours of such gases as Naphthalene, Ethylene, Butane, Styrene, etc. Until the whole plant was made completely secure against odours of this kind, such conditions certainly did trouble many people but here again the matter has, in general, been resolved.

ALKALI WORKS.

The following local works and processes have been transferred to the Alkali Inspectorate under the provisions of the Alkali, etc. Works Order.

<i>Name of Firm—</i>	<i>Work or Processes Registered—</i>
Steel Company of Wales Ltd.	Sulphate of Ammonia, Benzene, Gas and coke, Iron and Steel (Blast Furnaces), Sinter Plant, Open Hearth Furnaces, Bessemer Furnaces, Oxygen.
Wales Gas Board	Gas and Coke.
The Distillers Co., Ltd.	Lime.
Metallurgical Chemists Ltd.	Nitric Acid, Arsenic.
Forth Chemicals Ltd.	Parafin Oil, Hydrochloric Acid.
British Hydrocarbon Chemicals Ltd.	Parafin Oil, Chlorine.

I am indebted to Mr. J. C. Peabody, the District Alkali Inspector, for his ready co-operation and courtesy at all times. Information is readily exchanged with him and he is always prepared to visit me at short notice to discuss matters of concern and to visit the various works in the Borough on occasion of complaint.

The following list indicates those chimney stacks in the Borough which still come under our own supervision and those coming within the control of the Alkali Inspectorate:—

No.	DESCRIPTION			Ground.	
				Height above Ft.	Ins.
LOCAL AUTHORITY.	(1	Margam "A" Power House	— 5 Chimneys	105	0
	(2A	Margam "B" Power House	— 1 Chimney	120	9
	(2B	Margam "B" Power House	— 1 Chimney	230	0
	(3	(Abbey Soaking Pits	— 12 Chimneys	100	0
	(	(Abbey Soaking Pits	— 7 Chimneys	161	1 $\frac{1}{8}$
	(4	Abbey Slab Reheating Furnaces	— 5 Recuperators	136	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
ALKALI INSPECTORATE.	(5	Abbey Annealing Furnaces	— 9 Chimneys (Ducts)	80	0
	(7	Acid Recovery Plant	— 1 Chimney	157	10
	(6	Abbey Services Boiler House	— 3 Chimneys	120	4
	MARGAM:				
	(8	No. 1 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 Uptakes	192	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
	(9	No. 2 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	233	11
	(10	No. 3 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	233	11
	(11	No. 4 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	251	5
	(12	No. 5 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	253	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
	(13	No. 1 Blast Furnace	— 1 Chimney (Stove)	203	6
	(14	No. 2 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	203	6
	(15	No. 3 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	203	6
	(16	No. 4 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	242	0
	(17	No. 5 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	242	0
	(18	No. 4 Blast Furnace Bleeder Stack	— 3 Chimneys	240	9
	(19	No. 5 Blast Furnace Bleeder Stack	— 3 "	242	0
	(20A	Blast Furnace Clean Gas Bleeder	— 1 "	114	6
	(20B	Blast Furnace Clean Gas Bleeder	— 1 "	64	9
	(21	Coke Ovens—No. 2 Battery	— 1 "	235	10
	(22	Coke Ovens—No. 3 Battery	— 1 "	235	10
	(23	Coke Ovens—No. 4 Battery	— 1 "	257	6
	(24	Coke Ovens—No. 5 Battery	— 1 "	235	8
	(25	Coke Oven Gas Bleeder Stack (New)	— 3 "	210	0
	(26	Coke Oven Bleeder Stack (Old)	— 1 "	85	0
	(27A	Sinter Plant	— 1 "	279	8 $\frac{3}{4}$
	(27B	Sinter Plant	— 1 "	278	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
	(28	Sinter Strand	— 4 "	121	9
	(29	Sinter Strand	— 4 "	103	4 $\frac{1}{8}$
	(30	Sinter Strand	— 4 "	85	7 $\frac{1}{8}$
	(31	E.P. Plant	— 1 "	120	0
	(32	Attritor House	— 1 "	75	8
	(33	Sludge Filtration Plant	— 1 "	56	0
	ABBHEY:				
	(34	Melting Shop	— 12 Chimneys * (4)	151	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
	(35	Dust Precipitation Plant (Maerz Furnaces)	— 1 "	220	3
	(36	No. 6 Coke Oven Battery	— 1 "	259	1
	(37	Coke Oven Gas Bleeder Stack	— 3 "	150	10
	(38	Slab Deseamer (Scarfer)	— 1 "	58	6
	(39	V.L.N. Plant Converter Stack	— 4 "	131	10
	(40	Fume Exhaust	— 4 "	100	0

* Not in Normal Use.

Smoke Control Areas.

Endeavours were made in the early part of the year to put into motion an attempt to set up one or more smoke control areas in the Borough.

I was given authority to investigate the situation and in order to be well equipped with all aspects of the matter visits were made to the Welsh Office of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, Ministry of Fuel and Power and the National Coal Board and additional information was obtained from the Coal Utilization Council.

First ideas on the subject were that we could start a programme on the progressive creation of zones by setting one up in a relatively clean area in Baglan in order that we could pursue a systematic expansion of zones along the perimeter of the Borough and towards the centre, thus gradually approaching the big source of pollution of the Steel Company of Wales and other industries.

In the knowledge that the Ministry of Fuel and Power and the National Coal Board, although unable to give any assurances as to the supply in the Borough of approved smokeless fuels but being nevertheless able to ensure coal stocks in the area being below 20% volatile capacity, we indicated to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government that consideration could be given to the declaration of a smoke control area covering that part of the town which included Baglan, the whole of the Sandfields Estate and the area up to the West side of Victoria Road, Ysguthan Road and Water Street, Aberavon.

The order, it was suggested, would for the time being exempt all industries, but at the same time these would be asked, within a period of 18 months, to place themselves in a position to be able to comply with the order by installation of mechanical stokers or such other adaptations or replacements as may be found necessary. This did not seem unreasonable as the 7 year temporary exemption under Section 1 of the Act would expire in July of 1963. After this period of 18 months, exemptions given to industries would be lifted and would be followed by a declaration of the rest of the Borough as a smoke control area. We calculated that the cost to the local authority would be in the region of £50,000.

This scheme was presented to the Welsh Office of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government but the general conclusion reached was that we were fortunate in Port Talbot in that we could rely on coal being less than 20 per cent volatile and further taking into account that the cleaning of the industrial air in Port Talbot was bound to be a protracted process, it would appear more wise at this juncture not to embark upon the expense necessary to create smokeless zones.

We, therefore, did not proceed further in this matter but I must take this opportunity of indicating that I hope this is not the end of our efforts in this respect, as when there is a material reduction in atmospheric pollution, from the steel making process in the Town in particular, I am quite satisfied that we should make a material attempt to reduce domestic smoke at the same time.

Investigation and Prior Approval of New Furnaces.

In accordance with Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, all new furnaces (except domestic) are required to be capable of being operated continuously without emitting smoke when burning fuel of a type for which they are designed. The Section also requires notification to the local authority when there is an intention to instal a furnace exceeding an output of 55,000 B.T.U's per hour.

During the year notice of intention to install boiler apparatus was received from:—

British Railways, Power Signal Box, Port Talbot Station.

New Aberavon Lido.

Glamorgan County Council in respect of Home for the Aged, Sandfields.

Glamorgan County Council in respect of New Fire Station, Tailbach.

Application for prior approval of boiler equipment was received from:—

Messrs. Alpha Dry Cleaners, Ltd., Port Talbot.

This application was approved after assurances were given to increase the chimney height from 30 to 40 feet.

Control of Chimney Heights.

It will be observed from the previous paragraph that we pay particular attention to the provision of Section 10 of the Clean Air Act, 1956 controlling the heights of chimneys.

In this respect our link with the Borough Surveyor is complete when plans are presented for new premises which include installation and the Ministry of Housing and Local Governments memo on Chimney Heights has proved a helpful guide.

FACTORIES.

The activities of your Chief Public Health Inspector's Department in relation to those duties imposed upon this Council by the Factory Acts of 1937/61 were as follows:—

1.—Inspection of Factories.

Premises on Register (1)	Inspection (2)	Number of written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
315	423	8	—

2.—Particulars Found in Factories.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND					Referred		Cases in	
Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	Inspector	Inspector	which prose- cutions were instituted	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	13	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accumulation	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :—								
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or de- fective	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- work)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	20	20	—	—	—	—	—	—

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

In the normal course of our duties, the Rodent Operators pay regular visits to our Refuse Tip operation. One tip only is in operation on the Sandfields Moors. This has presented us with constant problems as in more or less the same area there are several allotment holders and pig-keepers. This is in an area of the Borough which will over the ensuing years, be developed and then the problem of rat infestation should gradually decrease.

Indiscriminate tipping of refuse is still a major concern of ours. We constantly find rubbish of all kinds deposited on any spare piece of ground or on to railway embankments, etc. The Borough Surveyor has a scheme whereby tradesmen are allowed to take trade refuse to the tip at particular times, but we find that even this arrangement does not suit a minority, who throw out refuse, often at night-time, on to other people's property.

RODENT CONTROL.

Our duties carried out under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, proceeded during the year with a satisfactory rate of progress. Our two operators cover the whole Borough between them. Regular attention is given to the usual sources of infestation such as refuse tips, railway embankments, river banks, piggeries and stables, sewers, food premises, canteens etc. In addition they are engaged daily in treating private and business premises.

Reference has been made elsewhere in this Report to tipping of rubbish in all kinds of places in the Borough and this in no small measure adds to the work of the Rodent Operator.

The notification of rodent infestations as required by Sub-section 1 of Section 3 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, was as follows:—

Rats	332
Mice	64
	<hr/>
TOTAL	396
	<hr/>

650 dwelling-houses and 125 business premises were treated in the area. Private dwellings are treated free of cost and a small charge is made for business premises, sufficient to reimburse Council for the time of the Rodent Operator, the baiting poison used, plus the usual establishment charge.

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES & FOOD.
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.**

Report for 12 months ended 31st December, 1963

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority (1)	Non-AGRICULTURAL Dwelling- houses (inc. Council houses) (2)	All Other (inc. Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3 (4)	Agricul- tural (5)
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	35	15,186	2,506	17,727	61
II. Total Number of properties inspected as a result of:—					
Notification	13	379	89	471	13
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat: Major	2	5	4	11	1
Minor	10	372	73	455	12
House Mouse: Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	1	2	3	6	—
III. Total number of properties inspected in the course of Survey under the Act	2	885	60	947	13
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat: Major	—	11	—	11	—
Minor	2	102	14	118	4
IV. Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	58	774	381	1,213	55
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat: Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	61	4	65	3
V. Total Inspections carried out including re-inspections (To be completed only if figures are readily available)	143	6,894	1,126	8,163	185
VI. Number of infested properties (in Sec. II, III, and IV) treated by the L.A.	15	553	98	666	20
VII. Total treatments carried out (To be completed only if figures are readily available)	15	1,264	149	1,428	26
VIII. Number of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act:—					
(a) Treatment	—	3	—	—	1
(b) Structural work i.e., Proofing	—	3	—	—	1

Nature and Number of Baits Laid.

Pre-poisoning Baits	20,220
Poison Baits:—Tomarin	3,529
Warfarin	1,416
Rinoxin	110
Zinc phosphide	466
Arsenious Oxide	468

Maintenance Treatment of Rats in Sewers.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food a percentage of our sewer man-holes are treated twice annually. Brief particulars of both treatments during 1963 are as follows:—

TREATMENT.	June/ July, 1963.	Nov./ Dec. 1963.
No. of Manholes baited	327	466
No. of Manholes showing bait taken	282	427

BAIT USED: Arsenious Oxide. Zinc Phosphide.

NOISE ABATEMENT.

There are three major sources of noise which concern us. One emanates from our Amusement Parks and relates to the loud speaker system in particular and another from our own system which provides music and announces the activities of the Promenade and Beach. In addition steam ejection from industries has proved troublesome to many residents.

The noise from the Amusement Park and our own loud speaker equipment has certainly been the cause of a great deal of unrest to a large number of people living in the vicinity of Aberavon Beach. The complaints relate to the volume of noise from the amplified recording of music and also from the announcements of the attraction of side shows, etc. Many people found disturbing too, the noise from listening to our own loud speaker equipment. We have understood that such activities of this kind cannot exist without the use of the loud speaker equipment and after much deliberation and discussion between the parties concerned, there was an endeavour to reduce the noise to acceptable and bearable limits.

We were concerned for a period of time with the noise from steam ejection at the new British Hydrocarbon Plant but the Company co-operated in this matter and produced a successful diminution in the noise level by a division of the system of steam ejection. In general after this was done there have been very few complaints of noise from the plant.

INSECT PESTS.

Our work in the eradication of all kinds of household and other pests does not diminish. We have, perhaps, fewer bed bug infestations but not less is the trouble that people experience with invasion of insects such as earwigs, woodworm, beetles, etc. We continue our practice of being ready at all times to help with advice, inspection and the issue of disinfestation materials.

Although there are fewer houses infested with bed bugs we do still have a number of families who are a real problem in this respect. We have the experience, as I feel sure have other towns, where certain families seem to be quite unresponsive for any length of time to help and encouragement to keep their premises clean and free from vermin.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The position remains the same in Port Talbot as indicated in last year's Report. There is now no common lodging house in the Borough.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The condition of the two offensive trades—one a rag-a-bone collector, the other a fat melter and abstractor—remains generally the same. Regarding the latter whose premises do not measure very well to present day standards there are plans by the proprietor to construct a new premises either on the same site or on an adjoining site.

INSPECTOR OF CINEMAS.

We are able to report once again that our cinemas have been maintained in a satisfactory condition during the year. We have continued our co-operation with the Glamorgan County Council Fire Officer and each cinema is visited jointly with him.

What work that was required to be done was encouragingly small and each cinema has been well managed.

RENT ACT, 1957.

RENT RESTRICTION REGULATIONS, 1957.

During the year there was only one application for a Certificate of Disrepair and this was granted in respect of all the defects enumerated on the required form by the tenant.

The viewpoint expressed in last year's Report that there is now practically no use made of the Regulations is sustained.

INSPECTION OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

Regular inspections are made of council houses when applications are made to exchange tenancies and also on termination of tenancies. This is one of the ways by which we are able to unearth unsatisfactory, dirty and verminous conditions. Other

means adopted are to receive information from rent collectors, for instance, who visit all houses every week and in this manner we can be informed of conditions which do not appear to be satisfactory. In this connection visits were made and 116 houses were found to be verminous and dirty. Efforts are always made to persuade such tenants to improve the cleanliness of their homes and assistance is also given with the issue of materials to disinfect them.

We prefer not to carry out a house to house and door to door inspection of council houses as this can lead to irritation to the vast majority of tenants who of course are clean and satisfactory in every way.

LAND CHARGES ACT, 1935.

580 enquiries were dealt with in 1963, as a result of application made to the Town Clerk, under the provisions of the Land Charges Act, 1935.

STAFF.

Pupil Public Health Inspectors.

We increased our complement of full time pupil Public Health Inspectors to three in 1963. This third appointment was that of Mr. Keith Snook and this has proved another excellent choice of student.

During the year Mr. Ronald Watkins succeeded in passing the Intermediate Examination for the Public Health Inspector's Diploma of the Public Health Inspector's Examination Board. He is to be congratulated on doing so well. Mr. Paul Thomas will take his Intermediate Examination next year.

We welcome also to the staff Miss Mair Davies who was appointed to replace Miss Linda Williams who resigned to take up another appointment.

THE HOUSING ACT (MANAGEMENT OF HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION) REGULATIONS 1962.

Although in Port Talbot we have a problem relating to houses in multiple occupation it is not one regarded as being so serious as in towns, cities such as London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Leeds, etc. Consequently it does not appear so far, at any rate, to be one which gets very much out of hand. A report on the situation was placed before the Public Health Committee in September of the year and the report gave full details of all the houses which came majorly within the scope of the regulations. We do of course apply a reserved approach to the many houses where two groups of one

family live harmoniously together and generally it would be wrong to disturb them.

It is true to say that the majority of our houses in multiple occupation are those of nationalities other than our own and we find that their customs and modes of living sufficiently different from ours as to warrant careful supervision.

Perhaps the worse problem is related to the conversion of a house often in a good neighbourhood into one for the use of unmarried lodgers mostly of the male sex and leaving the real care of them and their rooms to themselves. The conditions which result bear very little difference from those of common lodging houses and perhaps even worse in that the person who owns the house in order to reap as much income from it as possible lives elsewhere, leaving the lodgers to fend for themselves. They thus prepare their own meals in the common scullery or kitchen and congregate in a living room in a common manner and sleep some times three or four in a bedroom. This I considered to be a worse condition than often is the case in common lodging houses where the keeper is in residence the whole time.

In placing my report before the Public Health Committee I asked it to agree which they did to a standard as to overcrowding. This was to limit the equivalent of two adults for sleeping purposes in any normal sized bedrooms, of 110 sq. ft. or more and that the sexes be adequately separated. Council agreed also to insist that where lodgers are taken in the occupier should himself or herself live in and not leave the house entirely for the lodgers to fend for themselves.

So far as fire escape is concerned it has been agreed to apply the standards which the Glamorgan County Council Fire Authority apply. In connection with the bath and washing facilities Council agreed to require a bath for every ten persons and where two or more separate families are housed, there should be separate sanitary accommodation for each family. If this is not reasonable a W.C. for not more than eight persons. Each family should have separate food storage and as far as possible separate washing facilities.

A major difficulty which I am sure is one which is common to all Authorities in which coloured people live is that of communication, as so many of them do not use the English language and to make them understand the requirements is a very difficult problem.

BY-LAWS AS TO HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS.

In the month of May Council resolved to adopt for confirmation by the Ministry, by-laws relating to hairdressers and barbers premises. The model by-laws were adopted and later confirmed by the Ministry for securing (a) the cleanliness of premises of each hairdresser or barbers business carried on and of the instruments, towels, equipment and material used therein and (b) cleanliness of the hairdressers or barbers working in such premises in regard to both themselves and their clothing.

In order to gain the support of the trade a meeting was convened of all ladies and gentlemen's hairdressers and barbers in the Borough and a very well attended meeting took place at which a healthy discussion ensued. There are at present 26 ladies and 21 gentlemen's hairdressers in the Borough and visitations are being made of them all so that the by-laws may be complied with.

SLUM CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES.

The year 1963 has been a critical one in the field of slum clearance within the Borough. Besides giving attention to the approved five year programme and the Centre of Town Areas a complete re-appraisal of the problem, as it affects the whole Borough, has been under way. There have been many meetings between the various departments and I would thank the Town Clerk, Medical Officer of Health, Borough Engineer, the Borough Treasurer and Housing Manager and all those personally concerned within the separate departments for their invaluable help and advice. I would also thank the Chairmen and members of the Public Health and Housing Committees for their understanding of the problems involved and the support they have given.

From previous Annual Reports it will be seen that three-fifths of the original Five Year Slum Clearance Scheme has been completed.

First Year Programme:

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government confirmed orders which involved the following areas:—

Area:	No. of houses:
Richard Street (Compulsory Purchase Order)	21
Picton Street (Compulsory Purchase Order)	19
Charles Street (Compulsory Purchase Order)	10
Craddock Street (Compulsory Purchase Order)	5
Mountain Row (Compulsory Purchase Order)	9
Wern Place (Compulsory Purchase Order)	15
Wern Square (Compulsory Purchase Order)	51

Total number of houses involved	130
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In addition 43 Demolition or Closing Orders were made in respect of individual unfit houses.

Second Year Programme:

During the second year's programme the Ministry of Housing and Local Government confirmed Orders in respect of the following houses:—

Area :	No. of houses :
Pantdu (Clearance Orders)	43
Cwmavon Road (Clearance Order)	4
Cwmavon Road and Talbot Street (Compulsory Purchase Order)	4
Greenpark Street (Compulsory Purchase Order)	54
Total number of houses involved	<u>105</u>

Third Year Programme:

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government confirmed orders which involved the following areas:—

Area :	No. of houses :
Tyr Arthur Row, Cwmavon	24
Tewgoed Row, Cwmavon	18
Engine Row, Cwmavon	14
Copper Row, Cwmavon	28
Vivian Row, Aberavon	9
Water Street and Park Row, Aberavon	9
Cross Row, Cwmavon	16
Total number of houses involved	<u>118</u>

This past year has taken up with the completion of the detailed case for the Centre of Town Clearance Area, Compulsory Purchase Order for submission to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government early in 1964. It is anticipated that the Public Inquiry and the resulting decision of the Minister will be received by the end of that year.

It is also the intention that the complete details of the remaining two phases of the original Scheme be completed by September, 1964.

Fourth Year Programme:

As soon as the Centre of Town Scheme has been completed we propose to deal immediately with our 4th and 5th year programmes as follows:—

Area :	No. of houses :
Balaclava, Taibach	16
Constant Hill, Taibach	2
Inkerman Row (East), Taibach	10
Commercial Road, Taibach	3
Merthyr Row, Cwmavon	7
Church Square, Cwmavon	13
London Row, Cwmavon	29
Total number of houses involved	<hr/> 80 <hr/>

Fifth Year Programme:

Area :	No. of houses :
Penycae Road, Port Talbot	28
Lletty Harry, Port Talbot	14
Oakwood Row, Pontrhydyfen	29
Schoolroom Row, Pontrhydyfen	4
Corlannau, Aberavon	12
Total number of houses involved	<hr/> 87 <hr/>

This will mean that all the outstanding agreed slum clearance will be completed within the next twelve months.

Regarding rehousing and subsequent demolition of sub-standard properties in our existing programme, it is now the declared intention of Council that this difficult problem will be solved by the end of 1965. The building of houses in Cwmavon and Aberavon in large numbers is, I think, proof of this, and at the same time proof of this Local Authority's concern as to the welfare of the many people living in houses of a standard well below that which they have a right to expect. Indeed, completion of the work by December, 1965, will also safeguard many people in their accepted claims for compensation and well maintained payments.

I have said earlier that it has also been a year of re-appraisal. I can indicate here that the foundation of the future clearance of sub-standard houses in all areas of the Borough has been laid. During the next twelve months I hope to see our next big stride forward in the goal of better homes for the many who are still

living in housing conditions far below the standards which have become acceptable today.

Finally, I have to report that individual action has been taken as regard 13 dwellings in the Borough, resulting in the making of 3 Demolition Orders, and 10 Closing Orders (this figure includes 6 sub-standard basement dwellings).

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

Contravention of Food and Drugs Act, 1955:

We were reluctantly obliged during the year to institute proceedings before the Magistrates in respect of the following:—

A Baker was fined a total of £15 in respect of the sale of Apple Turnovers affected with mould, contrary to Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

A Grocer and Confectioner was fined £5 for the sale of a Battenburg Cake containing an earwig, contrary to Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

A Confectioner was fined £15 plus costs for the sale of crumpets affected with mould contrary to Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955.

A Baker was fined £10 plus £2 costs for the sale of a Loaf of Bread containing a part of an earwig, contrary to Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

